

THE TIMES OF INDIA

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TODAY'S EDITION

▶ Read all about blind cricket tournament, and the challenges faced by these players
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As demands for reopening of schools gain momentum, an educationist outlines the precautions schools need to take before calling students back
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▶ Ronaldo scores to give Man United hard-fought win against Norwich
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STUDENT EDITION
MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2021

According to researchers, it could potentially detect asymptomatic carriers of the virus, who may not get tested because they feel healthy

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BLACK BOX

IN THE NEWS FOR: The black box of the IAF chopper, carrying CDS Bipin Rawat and 11 other military personnel that crashed recently has been recovered. According to experts, it will help the investigative team to know about the final flight situation and other details.

WHAT: Also referred to as Flight Data Recorder, the black box is a vital electronic device that records 88 vital parameters about a flight, including airspeed, altitude, cockpit conversations, and air pressure, among others. When a crash happens, the black box is located on a priority basis to understand what actually caused the crash. A black box is mandatory for all the commercial

airliner and armed forces to preserve clues from cockpit sounds and data to help prevent future accidents.

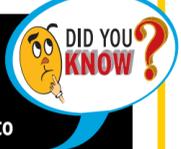
WHAT'S INSIDE A BLACK BOX: Weighing around 4.5 kilos, it has four main parts: A chassis or interface designed to fix the device and facilitate recording and playback; An underwater locator beacon; the core housing or 'Crash Survivable Memory Unit' made of stainless steel or titanium, and two recorders: a Cockpit Voice Recorder (CVR) for pilot voice

es or cockpit sounds and a Flight Data Recorder (FDR).
HOW IS RECORDING SOURCED: The protective material is peeled and cleaned by the technicians. They carefully



clean connections to make sure that they do not accidentally erase data. The audio or data file are then downloaded and copied. The data is then decoded from raw files before being turned into graphs.

Interestingly, the black box is neither black in colour nor box in shape. It is actually a compressor shaped device made in high-visibility orange colour. Though experts disagree on how the nickname originated, many historians attribute their invention to Australian scientist David Warren in the 1950s



A FACE MASK THAT GLOWS IN THE DARK!

Scientists have developed a new face mask that uses ostrich antibodies to detect Covid-19 by glowing under ultraviolet light. It is hoped the innovation could enable low-cost testing of the virus at home. The non-woven mask features a filter coated with ostrich antibodies targeting Covid, based on the idea that previous research has shown the birds have strong resistance to disease. These antibodies were extracted from the eggs of ostriches that had been injected with an inactive, non-threatening form of the coronavirus, as antibodies transfer to the offspring through the yolk. (DAILY MAIL)



DEVELOPED
■ In a study by Yasuhiro Tsukamoto and his team at Kyoto Prefectural University in western Japan, participants wore the masks for eight hours before the filters were removed and sprayed with a chemical that glows under ultraviolet light if Covid is present. Those that had been worn by people infected with the virus glowed around the nose and mouth, researchers found
■ They said the LED light of a smartphone could also be used to detect the virus, which would greatly widen those able to use the face mask. The scientists hope to further develop the masks so that they will glow automatically, without special lighting

IN OTHER NEWS



108 countries recognise Indian Covid-19 vaccination certificate for travel purpose: Govt

A total of 108 countries recognise the Indian Covid-19 vaccination certificate for travel purpose, minister of state for health Bharati Pravin Pawar informed Lok Sabha on Friday. The World Health Organisation's Emergency Use Listing (EUL) assists interested UN procurement agencies, member states and countries in determining acceptability of using specific vaccines, based on an essential set of available data on quality, safety, efficacy and performance, Pawar said in a written reply.



Indian Railways to introduce attendants on board premium trains

The Indian Railways will soon introduce attendants in its premium trains, including Vande Bharat, Gatimaan and Tejas Express, in a bid to provide better passenger services. The attendants will be a mixed gendered crew that will work only during the daytime in premium trains. There will also be catering that aims to match the standard of airlines

The Indian Railways at present operates around 25 premium trains, which include 12 Shatabdi, one Gatimaan, two Vande Bharat, one Tejas Express

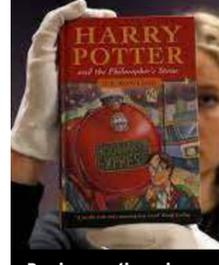
Pop superstar Alicia Keys debuts new album 'Keys' live in Dubai



MUSIC
Superstar Alicia Keys on Friday debuted her new album live in front of a packed crowd at the world's fair in Dubai— a lively pop performance full of soaring vocals and piano solos. The 15-time Grammy Award-winning singer's sprawling double album, 'Keys', includes two versions of each song: 'Originals', produced by Keys, and 'Unlocked', produced by Keys and Michael Williams II, who goes by Mike Will Made-It. Her piano-driven 'Originals' consists of emotional, intimate soul tunes oozing with love and longing, while 'Unlocked' showcases upbeat, more clubby pop versions of the same tracks.

\$471,000 FACTOID

Price of a first edition of 'Harry Potter' that was sold in the United States recently. A world record price for a 20th century work of fiction, the hardback 1997 British edition of 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone', with a colour illustration on the cover, was described by Heritage Auctions as "magical, incredibly bright and so very near pristine." The Dallas-based auction house said only 500 copies with the specific binding were printed. The final price was more than six times the pre-sale estimate of \$70,000.



Previous auction prices for Harry Potter first editions have ranged from about \$110,000 to \$138,000.

British author JK Rowling went on to write six more books about the adventures of the orphaned boy wizard that have sold some 500 million copies worldwide in 80 languages, according to the US publisher Scholastic. The books were turned into eight films, which made \$7.8 billion at the global box office.

BOOK

ANGELA MERKEL TO WRITE A POLITICAL AUTOBIOGRAPHY



Former German Chancellor Angela Merkel wants to write an autobiographical book explaining her most important political decisions, a news outlet in Germany quoted a close aide as saying on Friday. Merkel's longtime office manager, Beate Baumann, told news weekly Der Spiegel that Merkel "doesn't want to retell her whole life. She would like to explain her central political decisions in her own words, and referring to her journey through life."

■ Merkel, 67, handed over the chancellorship to successor Olaf Scholz on Wednesday after a near-record 16 years in power. She didn't seek a fifth term in office and hasn't disclosed her future plans, though she has said in the past that she will not seek another political role

■ Merkel, a former scientist who grew up in East Germany, entered politics as communism crumbled and joined the then-Chancellor Helmut Kohl's first post-reunification government in 1990

And the most-mispronounced WORDS OF 2021 ARE...

Cheugy is apparently a lot to chew on. Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter Billie Eilish and Philadelphia Eagles center Jason Kelce have something in common — broadcasters butcher their names. And virtually everyone is having trouble with 'omicron'. All four made it onto this year's list of most-mispronounced words as compiled by the US Captioning Company, which captions and subtitles real-time events on TV and in courtrooms.

The list identifies the words that proved most challenging for newsreaders and people on television to pronounce this year

CHEUGY (CHOO-GEE): A trendy term popularised by Gen Z and used to mock an outdated and unfashionable aesthetic typically associated with millennials, such as 'Live, Laugh, Love' signs

DALGONA (TAL-GOH-NAH): A Korean treat made with melted sugar and baking soda, popularised by Elon Musk, causing its value to dramatically increase

EILISH (EYE-LISH): The singer Billie Eilish, whose album 'Happier Than Ever' was released this year to critical



acclaim and nominated for the Grammy Awards' Album of the Year

ETHERIUM (IH-THEE-REE-UM): Another cryptocurrency that skyrocketed in value this year amid the decentralised-currency boom



