



# THE TIMES OF INDIA

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**TODAY'S EDITION**

Take a trip with us to all the new heritage places around the world that recently earned the UNESCO tag  
**PAGE 2**



Know more about Franz Kafka and why he is a role model for many youngsters?  
**PAGE 3**



Tokyo 2020: India finishes 48th in medal tally; best in four decades  
**PAGE 4**



**STUDENT EDITION**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2021



**CLICK HERE: PAGE 1 AND 2**

**FOR THE RECORD**

Modi would be the first-ever Indian PM to chair an open debate at the council but that is not to be confused with being the UNSC president

**X-PLAINED**

**WHAT**

PM Narendra Modi chaired a high-level open debate at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) on enhancing maritime security on Monday. India took over the presidency of the Security Council recently with a pledge to work for entire humanity while bringing a focus to the challenges of terrorism.

**WHY**

**IS IT SIGNIFICANT:** As part of its new role as president of the UNSC that all 15 members get in rotation, India will decide the agenda of the UN's highest decision making body whose resolutions and directives are binding on all the member states. India will also coordinate important meetings on a range of issues during August. India will organise meetings focused on key areas of maritime security, peacekeeping and counter-terrorism.

## Why social media abuzz with PM presiding UNSC



**PAK WORRIED?**

Pakistan's envoy to the UN Munir Akram said, they will be "watchful" during New Delhi's spell at the forum. "We hope that India will abide by the relevant rules and norms governing the conduct of the Security Council Presidency," he added

**INDIA @ UNSC**

**1** This is India's first presidency in the UNSC during its 2021-22 tenure as a non-permanent member of the UNSC. The two-year tenure of India as a non-permanent member of the UNSC began on January 1, 2021

**2** India has been campaigning for a permanent seat at the UNSC along with Germany, Japan and Brazil for many years

**3** While the US, France, Britain and Russia are not averse to India joining the UNSC as a permanent member, China has been opposing it. This is seen as due to Beijing's close ties with India's arch rival Pakistan



**KARNATAKA KHADI GRAMODYOGA SAMYUKTA SANGHA (KKGSS)**



The Indian flag is manufactured and supplied from only one place in the country—the Karnataka Khadi Gramodyoga Samyukta Sangha (KKGSS). Located in Dharwad, Karnataka, it has the authority to manufacture and supply the Indian flag. According to the Bureau of Indian Standards, the national flag is manufactured only with hand-spun and handwoven cotton khadi bunting

## Deepika Padukone reportedly out of 'Baiju Bawra' for demanding equal pay as Ranveer Singh

If reports are to go by, actress Deepika Padukone is now out from

**VIEWPOINT**

Sanjay Leela Bhansali's 'Baiju Bawra' film, as she demanded the same fees as her husband Ranveer Singh. A champion for pay parity among actors and actresses, Deepika has been demanding and getting as much her leading men in her recent films. But, this time in 'Baiju Bawra', Bhansali has regretfully turned down her request for pay parity...



**1** Recently, Taapsee Pannu had spoken about pay disparity between male and female actors. She said that female actors who ask for more money are seen as "difficult", while if a male actor hikes his fee, it is considered a sign of success

**2** Earlier, actresses such as Priyanka Chopra, Anushka Sharma, Sonam Kapoor have spoken openly about pay disparity

**3** The same story goes with Hollywood. In Hollywood, female stars are paid 56% less than their male counterparts – the equivalent of \$2.2m less per film

- Interestingly, pay disparity among gender is a common feature in every sector
- Globally, the gender pay gap stands at 16 per cent, meaning women workers earn an average of 84 per cent of what men earn. For women of colour, immigrant women, and women with children, the difference is even greater.

**Q** Time to talk about pay parity and make it a reality in every sector? Please share your views at [toinie175@gmail.com](mailto:toinie175@gmail.com)

## Bottled water up to 3,500 times worse for environment: Study

The environmental impact of bottled water is up to 3,500 times higher than tap water, according to a new study. The consumption of bottled water has been increasing sharply in recent years on a global scale, due to the perceived presence of chemical compounds in tap water.

- The results showed that if the whole population of a city like Barcelona decided to shift to bottled water, the production required would take a toll of 1.43 species lost per year and cost \$83.9 million per year due to extraction of raw materials
- This is approximately 1,400 times more impact in ecosystems and 3,500 times higher cost of resource extraction compared to the scenario where the whole population would shift to tap water, the researchers said



Environment

## MHA tells states to stop usage of Tricolour made of plastic



Since plastic flags are not biodegradable like paper flags, these do not get decomposed for a long time and ensuring appropriate disposal of national flags made of plastic commensurate with the dignity of the flag is a practical problem, it said. Such flags are to be disposed in private, consistent with the dignity of the flag, it added

Ahead of the Independence Day celebration, the Centre has asked states to ensure that people don't use plastic national flags, as ensuring appropriate disposal of the Tricolour made of non-biodegradable items is a practical problem.

The Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971 and the Flag Code of India, 2002 govern the display of national flag

**Say NO to plastic Tricolour. Join us in creating awareness on the misuse of flags made of plastic. Share your views at [toinie175@gmail.com](mailto:toinie175@gmail.com)**

## When ISS astronauts enjoyed space Olympics

From synchronised space swimming to 'lack of floor routine' gymnastics, astronauts at the International Space Station (ISS) enjoyed their own Olympics games in zero gravity before holding a 'closing ceremony' to bid goodbye to Tokyo 2020. French astronaut Thomas Pesquet of the European Space Agency (ESA) posted a series of videos on Twitter over the weekend, showing some of the ISS astronauts performing their favourite games sans gravity. They also had a 'weightless' sharpshooting session where they shoot what look like rubber bands at a makeshift target. During the synchronised space swimming, the astronauts worked hard on the routines despite the lack of water. "Synchronised space swimming, an opportunity to show teamwork and crew cohesion," Pesquet posted. "No-handball, we had to adapt the rules a bit during the match, much investment on both sides for the win," he added. The astronauts even hung little flags of all the countries represented over their performance zones on the space station.



- They also held a closing ceremony where Aki Hoshide of JAXA (Japan's space agency) handed an Olympic flag to Pesquet, as Olympics 2024 is slated to happen in Paris
- The president of IOC, Thomas Bach, declared the 32nd Olympic Games closed on Sunday, as the Olympic flag was handed over to France, the host of the 2024 Paris Games

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# EVERY UNESCO SITE Has A Story To Tell



## FRENCH CITY OF NICE

- Following the decision by its World Heritage Committee, UNESCO in a statement called Nice, famous for its mild climate, the "Winter resort town of the Riviera".
- The city joins France's more than 40 world heritage sites including the banks of the river Seine in Paris, the Amiens cathedral, the Mont Saint Michel and stretches of the Loire valley.
- UNESCO said that Nice adapted its urban planning as early as two centuries ago to make itself attractive to foreigners seeking warmer climes.
- Their cultural influences and "desire to make the most of the climatic conditions and scenery of the place, shaped the urban planning and eclectic architectural styles of those areas", it said.
- With close to one million inhabitants, greater Nice is the second-biggest city on the French Mediterranean coast after Marseille, and the fifth-biggest in France.
- Nicknamed "Nice the Beautiful", the city attracted European aristocracy from the 18th century, starting with British royalty who had the seafront "Promenade des Anglais" named after them.
- Painters including Marc Chagall and Henri Matisse also stayed there, as did writers Anton Chekhov and Friedrich Nietzsche.
- "The history of Nice, which is at the same time deeply rooted and open, Mediterranean and Alpine, European and cosmopolitan, has produced an architecture that are a model for many other cities in the world.

Recently, new sites were given the heritage tag by UNESCO. Explore with **TIMES NIE** significance of each place

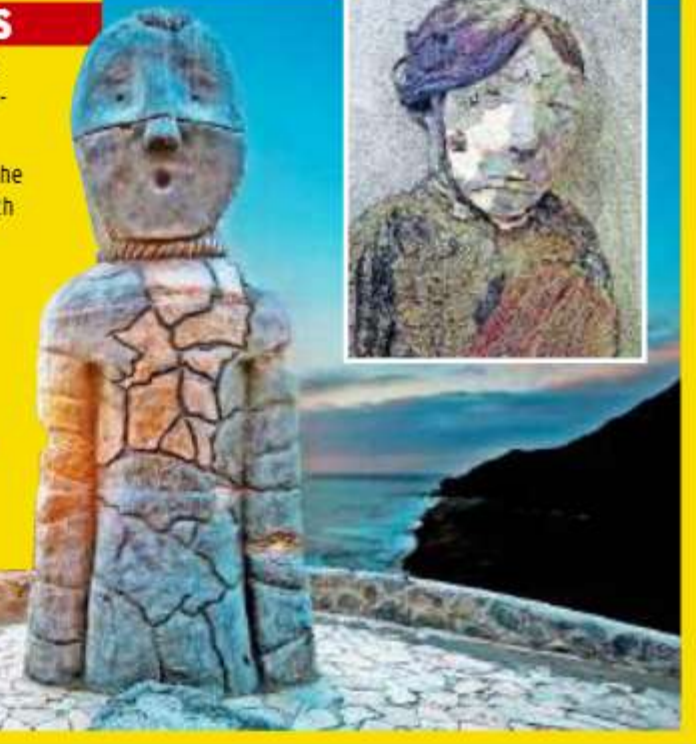
## RAMAPPA TEMPLE

- Rudreshwara, popularly known as Ramappa Temple, is located in Palampet Village, near Hyderabad, Telangana.
- It is the main Shiva temple in a walled complex built during the Kakatiyan period (1123-1323 CE) under rulers Rudradeva and Recherla Rudra.
- Construction of the sandstone temple began in 1213 CE and is believed to have continued for over 40 years. The building features decorated beams and pillars of carved granite and dolerite with a distinctive and pyramidal Vimana (horizontally stepped tower) made of light-weight porous bricks, so-called "floating bricks", which reduced the weight of the roof structures.
- The temple's sculptures of high artistic quality illustrate regional dance customs and Kakatiyan culture.



## CHILE'S ANCIENT MUMMIES

- Chile's Chinchorro mummies are the oldest in the world to have been purposefully preserved by humans.
- The mummies, which were found in the north of Chile at the start of the 20th century, are more than 7,000 years old, meaning they pre-date the Egyptian mummies by two millennia.
- The Chinchorro were fishers and hunter-gatherers more than 7,000 years ago in an area where the desert and Pacific Ocean meet in what is today the south of Peru and north of Chile.
- So far, more than 300 mummies have been found, including red, black and bandaged ones.



## DHOLAVIRA

- Dholavira is a Harappan-era city in Gujarat and is the second site to be included on the world heritage list this month after the Ramappa Temple at Palampet in Telangana's Warangal.
- Gujarat now has four world heritage sites – Dholavira, Champaner near Pavagadh, Rani ki Vav in Patan and the historic city of Ahmedabad.
- Dholavira: a Harappan city, is one of the very few well-preserved urban settlements in South Asia dating from the 3rd to mid-2nd millennium BCE.
- Dholavira is an exceptional example of a proto-historic Bronze Age urban settlement pertaining to the Harappan Civilization and bears evidence of a multi-cultural and stratified society during the 3rd and 2nd millennia BCE.



### A MUST VISIT: PM MODI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said he was "absolutely delighted" by this news, noting that Dholavira was an important urban centre and is one of the most important linkages with our past. "I first visited Dholavira during my student days and was mesmerised by the place. As CM of Gujarat, I had the opportunity to work on aspects relating to heritage conservation and restoration in Dholavira," he said.



## ROMAN GOLD MINES

- These are ancient Roman mining galleries in a mountainous Romanian region that has been at the centre of a long, fierce battle between a Canadian mining company and environmentalists.
- Rosia Montana, located in western Romania, is home to Europe's largest gold deposits. Gabriel Resources, a Canadian mining company that gained concession rights in 1999, planned to extract the gold and silver over a 16-year period. The mining project involved razing four mountain tops, displacing hundreds of local families and leaving behind a waste lake containing cyanide, a toxic chemical used in the process of gold extraction. But after activists' protests, mining stopped in 2014.



## THAILAND FOREST PARK

- A vast forest complex in Thailand has been added to UNESCO's World Heritage List, despite the UN's own experts warning of human rights violations against indigenous people in the area.
- The Kaeng Krachan Forest Complex in western Thailand is rich in biodiversity, including the critically endangered Siamese crocodile.
- But it is also home to an indigenous community of ethnic Karen people, who have long accused the Thai government of using violence and harassment to push them off their land.
- While many indigenous residents were allegedly driven out of the area, those remaining were not allowed to cultivate the land.
- Authorities say their farming activities would damage the forest, but activists argue that traditional farming methods do not harm the environment.

