

WISE WORDS >>

Most people spend more time and energy going around problems than in trying to solve them.

HENRY FORD

hindustantimes



(Clockwise from top) Service chiefs at the Police Memorial, Delhi; a formation aboard a navy ship; an Army band at a hospital in Panchkula and an IAF chopper above a Bengaluru hospital.

FROM SKY TO WATER

WARRIORS GIVE ROUSING SALUTE TO WARRIORS

Indo-Asian News Service

NEW DELHI: The Indian Air Force, Army and Navy on Sunday jointly expressed gratitude towards the medical fraternity who are battling the Covid-19 pandemic.

The gesture of expressing thanks started with the laying of flowers by the three Service Chiefs at the police memorial in Delhi in the morning to honour the police personnel deployed for enforcement of the nationwide lockdown.

Sukhoi-30 MKI, MiG-29 and Jaguars aircraft as well as Chetak helicopter did a flypast over Rajpath, circled over Delhi and showered petals over India Gate and Red Fort.

While army bands played patriotic tunes outside medical facilities in most districts across the country, Indian Navy personnel at INS Hansa in Goa formed a 'human chain' to thank the corona warriors in their unwavering commitment to fighting against the dreaded disease.

INS Jalashwa in Bay of Bengal

saluted the Covid-19 warriors. Senior naval officers visited and thanked the staff at the Kasturba Gandhi Hospital in Mumbai and a Chetak Navy helicopter carried out a flypast showering petals over the Kasturba Gandhi Hospital and the Ashwini Naval Hospital in Colaba, Mumbai. Similar scenes were witnessed at the Goa Medical College, SNM hospital in Leh, Jaipur in Rajasthan, Rajpath and police memorial in Delhi, Sukhna lake in Chandigarh, Srinagar's Dal Lake, Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh, Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh, Panchkula hospitals in Haryana and the Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences in Bhubaneswar.

The medical fraternity and other corona warriors had assembled outside the Covid-19 hospitals and other government buildings, acknowledging the efforts of the armed forces. The gestures came at a time when 1,301 people have died and nearly 40,000 are infected with the Covid-19 pandemic across the country.

LIFE UNDER COVID SHADOW

Upskilling for an entirely new world

Vanessa Viegas

This is a time tailor-made for upskilling. It doesn't have to be about your job. Take a course you would have liked to have taken in college, learn a skill you once admired. The options are insanely vast. You can pick philosophy or well-being, dance, gaming, cheese-making. You can spend hours inspecting the plausibility of life on other planets. You can do these courses at your pace and many of them are free.

Well-being: Money may not be able to buy happiness, but you can study what does improve the HQ, free, on Coursera. This course by Yale University correlates well-being with external factors (spoiler alert - money does count, but so does love). Study how the brain measures happiness, and why so many falter in pursuit of it. Blogger Indu Harikumar is in the second week. "This part teaches you to replay happy parts of your day; it's very calming," she says. "I've actually done this course before, but I keep returning to it."

Pro gaming: An hour-long course hosted by Udemy is divided into 12 bite-sized lectures aimed at helping amateur gamers enter the world of e-sports. The course costs ₹420 and was developed by Addiktz, which has been offering performance improvement programmes for aspiring pro gamers and e-sports teams since 2011. Expect tips on common rookie mistakes;

the right moves emotionally and monetarily; and how to maximise performance.

The science of gastronomy: Explore the science of recipes — and why mankind started cooking at all. This free Coursera course is taught by two professors from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. And by the time they're done, you'll know why the chocolate chip cookie is so chewy.

Graphic novels: There's plenty on offer on Skillshare, Coursera and Udemy. Some courses focus on drawing manga and anime, others on specialised areas like storyboard creation. Deepti Ronghe, 26, a video editor, says they're helping her rediscover her love for manga. "There aren't many books around that teach you to draw manga, and the ones available are so expensive," she says. "This is affordable, and I'm learning so much."

Innovating: This is going to be an important skill, in life after Covid. The free course on edX by Dartmouth University is about learning to think and create innovatively and be resourceful. It uses real-life examples like the Narayana Health hospital in Bengaluru that used the concept of mass production to cut costs and improve services for all. "A key thing I learnt was that strategy is a misused term. The course teaches what it really means and how to formulate a good one," says Rasika Iyer who handles digital media for a hospitality brand.



Deepti Ronghe is learning about the art and history of manga in a 14-session course on Skillshare that costs ₹450

IN THE NEWS

Dear Reader, Hindustan Times is coming to you in this new avatar at a time when our normal lives and activities have been disrupted by the challenge posed by the Coronavirus disease (Covid-19).

You have been reading the HT School Edition in your classrooms. Now, with schools closed and a lockdown in place, we have created this specially curated e-paper to cater to your varied interests and your appetite for knowledge.

A special feature of this new e-paper will be the "You" section, dedicated to your experiences during the lockdown, and how you're spending these unusual days. Apart from the contributions from students, insights from teachers and principals will also be featured in these columns.

As you engage with this special edition, we request you to keep sharing your views on it. Let us know what you like and what you don't, and what else you would like to read. Your feedback will help us fine-tune this offering so that it better reflects exactly what you want.

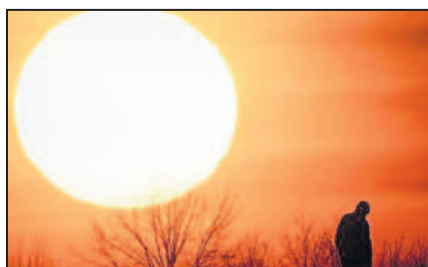
We at HT believe that the readers of today are the leaders of tomorrow. So let us begin this journey together.

Our Sun 'less active' than similar stars

WASHINGTON: The Sun appears to be far less active than similar stars in terms of brightness variations caused by sunspots and other phenomena — a "boring" personality, according to scientists, that may not be a bad thing for us earthlings.

Researchers said on Thursday that an examination of 369 stars similar to the Sun in surface temperatures, size and rotation period — it takes the Sun about 24-1/2 days to rotate once on its axis — showed that they displayed on average five times more brightness variability than the Sun.

"This variability is caused by dark spots on the surface of the star rotating in and out of view," said astronomer Timo Reinhold of the Max Planck Institute for Solar System Research in Germany, lead author of the research published in the journal Science. The Sun — essentially a hot ball of hydrogen and helium — is an average-sized star that formed more than 4.5 billion years ago and is roughly halfway through its lifespan. Its diameter is about 1.4 million km. Its surface temperature is about 5,500 degrees Celsius. **REUTERS**



The Sun appears to be far less active than similar stars in terms of brightness variations

Colonel, major among 5 security personnel killed in encounter at Handwara, Kashmir

HT Correspondent/Agencies

SRINAGAR: An Army colonel and a major were among five security personnel killed in an encounter with terrorists at a village in north Kashmir's Handwara area, director general of police Dilbagh Singh said on Sunday.

Two terrorists were also killed in the encounter that began around 3:30pm on Saturday after they took hostages inside a house in Chanjmulia area of Handwara.

Colonel Ashutosh Sharma, the commanding officer of the army's 21 Rashtriya Rifles battalion, Major Anuj, a Lance Naik and a rifleman and sub-inspector Shakeel Qazi of the Jammu and Kashmir police were killed after the fire-fight with terrorists holed up in the house. Officials said their bodies have been recovered from the encounter site. The civilians have been rescued, they added.

Colonel Sharma had been decorated twice for bravery and was part of several successful counter-terrorism operations during the past.

The encounter began on Saturday aft-



Two terrorists were killed in the encounter that began around 3:30 pm in north Kashmir on Saturday

ernoon after the army and state police launched a joint operation following a tip-off about the presence of terrorists in the area. The terrorists hid inside a house and took the residents as hostages.

A wreath-laying ceremony would be held here after which the Colonel Sharma's body would be flown to Bulandshahr in Uttar Pradesh and that of Major Sood to Chandigarh, the officials said.

Watch astronaut launch online: Nasa, SpaceX tell people

CAPE CANAVERAL, FLA.: Nasa and SpaceX on Friday urged spectators to stay home for the first home launch of astronauts in nearly a decade because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Top officials warned the public against travelling to Florida for the May 27 launch of two Nasa astronauts aboard a SpaceX rocket to the International Space Station.

It will be the first launch of astronauts from Nasa's Kennedy Space Center in nine years — ever since the last space shuttle flight in 2011. It also will be the first attempt by a private company to fly astronauts to orbit. For space shuttle launches, hundreds of thousands of spectators would descend on Kennedy Space Center and nearby beaches, said Nasa administrator Jim Bridenstine.

"The challenge that we're up against right now is we want to keep everybody safe," he said. "And so we're asking people not to travel to the Kennedy Space Center, and I will tell you that makes me sad to even say it. Boy, I wish we could make this into something really spectacular." **REUTERS**



A Japanese aquarium has appealed to people to video-chat with its eels, who are forgetting about humans

Japanese aquarium urges the public to video-chat with eels

TOKYO: A Japanese aquarium closed during the coronavirus outbreak is asking people to make video calls to their eels so the sensitive creatures remember humans exist and don't pose a threat.

The Sumida Aquarium, housed in the landmark Tokyo Skytree tower, has been closed since the start of March and its animals have become used to a largely human-free environment during the two-month calm.

"Creatures in the aquarium don't see humans except keepers and they have started forgetting about humans," it said on its Twitter account this week. **AFP**

