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INDIA'S DIVERSITY REFLECTS IN IT'S TOURISM

Siddhi Sawant

India is greatly known as the country with unique culture, heritage, and wildlife. From the Himalayas to Kanyakumari, India is surrounded by various picturesque beauties. India has a specialty of attracting not only Indians but also people around the globe with its architectural beauty. It has given rise to India's GDP of almost 3% and generated around 100 million jobs in 2019 in this field.



Illustrated by: **Sneha Bangal**

There are more than 200 tourism spots in India that attract people as per their likes and budget across India. Many refer to India as the best tourist destination in the world that treats people with great hospitality. The aesthetics

CHANDRAYAAN-3: PAVING WAY

LUNAR DISCOVERIES

Mruda Zarekar

In the vital Moon mission, launched from Sriharikota on July 14, Chandrayaan-3's Vikram lander module successfully completed a deboosting maneuver on Friday. Preparations are in full swing for its much-anticipated soft landing attempt, currently scheduled for August 23. ISRO released images of the moon taken from its Chandrayaan-3 spacecraft as it approaches the lunar south pole, a previously unexplored region thought to contain water ice where Russia is trying to land first.

The rover that will be a part of Chandrayaan-3 is expected to carry a suite of scientific instruments designed to analyze the lunar soil, rocks, and atmosphere. Chandrayaan-3 could significantly contribute to our understanding of the moon's formation and evolution, as well as its potential resources, by gathering data on the moon's composition. After examining the mistakes made by its predecessor in 2019, Chandrayaan-3 has a high possibility of becoming successful, as indicated by former ISRO chief Madhavan Nair. Soft landing of the lunar module involves 6,000 km/hour speed reduction, Vikram lander reorientation to 90 degrees, scanning complications, descent, and firing thrusters until touchdown. Following the separation of its lander module "Vikram" and the propulsion module that was bringing it closer to the Moon, Chandrayaan-3 achieved a crucial Milestone. It will perform the key landing on August 23. Its success could not only bolster India's reputation as a space-faring nation but also inspire a new generation of scientists and engineers.



Illustrated

India's beauty- a lavish dream

**In India, so much to see,
Monuments tall, like history.
People smiling, all day
through,
Colors everywhere, so true.**

**Mountains high and oceans
wide,
Different cultures side by side.
Taj Mahal's beauty, oh so
grand,
Bazaars lively, across the land.**

**India's amazing, that's plain to
see,
So happy here, I feel so free!**

**India's like a rainbow so wide,
Towers and statues with
history inside.
People with smiles from all
around,
Different cultures, beauty
we've found.**

**Mountains and oceans, big and
grand,
We hold each other, hand in
hand.
Taj Mahal's love, a sparkling
theme,
Busy bazaars, like a vibrant
dream.**

**Let's explore this wonderful
land,
India's magic, let's all
understand!**

- Kavya Vaidya

Home for many, mother of all

To our mother who we call

Saffron, white and green...

**My tricolour flutters high,
As it is destined to be
On the peaks of Himalayas
And on the borders in sea**

**I bow down to the brethren
How can't I be proud, guys?
For in the honour of our
tricolour
They happily laid down their
lives**

**I thank all the teachers
Who taught generations so
well
That love, peace and harmony
Are must in society you dwell**

**How can I forget the farmers?
They feed us so well
And the scientists of my
country
For them with pride our hearts
swell**

**Courage, peace and prosperity
Saffron, white and green
Together they make my
tricolour
This tapestry so serene!**

- rushikesh sawant

The lo foreve

**Unfoldi
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**With gr
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- Prana

INDIA- A Sacred Home- town...

**Dwells here a cultural
diversity
Resides several spices of
variety,
As i take pride in saying
This is our India playing
For her betterment.**

**Indeed t
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Through
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Speaks a
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Being an

Media Vibes

Giving credit where its due

We Indians are very patriotic taking pride in our national institutions and organizations. We also take our national holidays very seriously. Infact on the occasion of 76th Independence Day, the tricolour was all around us, even on WhatsApp and Instagram stories.

While we celebrate those who laid down their lives to keep this nation together, we often forget those who have been there with us when we needed them the most.

Indian defence has been tirelessly working, retaliating the enemy attacks with wars as well as tactics like surgical strikes and ariel attacks to keep the country safe from not-so-loving neighbours. We love and respect our Indian Army, Navy and Air Force who are working for India's defence. But is it same for those and who risk their lives helping Indians when a disaster strikes?

Few days ago, there was a landslide that crushed entire village of Irshalwadi. More than 100 people were trapped in the debris. Remember who went on the rescue operation ? It was National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) who were instrumental in almost all the rescue operations. When the floods engulfed the North India, 65 teams of NDRF were deployed in the flood-affected areas including Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, etc.

Do you remember the boy who was rescued from borewell in Nalanda ? No guesses required to find out who rescued him. NDRF, of course! These are the people who have been working day in and day out to

Mansi Mule

“Education is one thing that no one can take away from you,” said BB King, the famed singer. Indeed, it is true! Afterall, how can you unlearn something that has been imbibed in you by your teachers and mentors ? Education! Education! Education! This is how I had to start my article, being BAM-MC professor. I think overacting from tele-series has ingrained in my blood. Can we say education is equal to literacy ? Yes and no. We can look at it from two perspectives. Yes, education is equal to literacy because this literacy has made many families educate girls and thus initiated equality. Or we can say that education is not equal to literacy because many families still suffer from dowry and domestic abuse in the name of traditions, despite being literate. Education is an important factor in shaping your personality.

In today's professional world there is high demand for educational qualification. Today corporates need resume with well-educated individuals. Education needs to be a combination of skills and knowledge. When an individual gains combination of skills and knowledge both the personality is automatically different from others. Education in India has developed and is helping many youngsters be well educated citizens of India. Now students can jump from commerce to science or vice versa. The graduation degree can be in normal B.A. but they can make photography their career. This all thanks to many vocational courses that different universities and colleges have introduced.

Nowadays students have many options. Earlier generations complained they had to complete graduation to get a job but now there is no pressure of choosing a particular course students can go for



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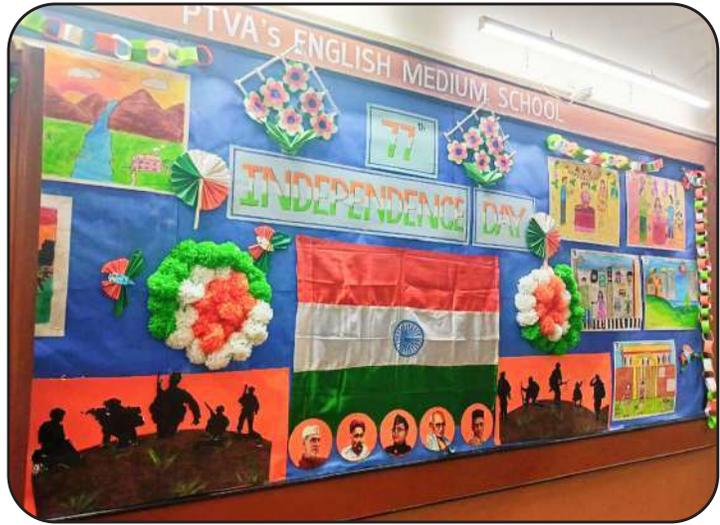
Sanskriti Sachade

On the stage you can be whoever you want to be! This is the one statement that stuck with me when my father first talked to me about theatre. At the time I had no clue what the charms and contortions

mats like Yakshagana from Karnataka, Therakottu from Tamil Nadu, Krishnattam from Kerela showcase various mythological stories adapted into dance and drama structures. Dashaavtar a unique play structure from

Monday, 21 August 2023

LENS SCOPE



UPI: India's superway to fintech superpower

Pranav Jadhav

In the recent times, do you remember carrying money more than Rs 200 or 300 in your wallet when you go now? I'm sure you don't! And why will we? We have our own smartphones with us, right?

We all are living in the 2020s, where the countries like the US, Germany, France, the UK and other developed countries rely on cards, eWallets, and private systems for payment. On the other hand, we live in India, a still developing country, which has its own independent payment system with more



than 300 million active users every month! I'm talking about the UPI and platforms like BHIM, GooglePay, PayTM, PhonePe, etc. that has not only made our lives easy with simple transaction options, but also ensured that we have legal, white transactions. In the Fiscal Year 2021-2022, on an average 2,348 transactions were enabled every second, accounting for 52% of India's total digital transactions. Moreover, a 650% surge in UPI usage was observed in semi-urban and rural stores.

How Unified Payments Interface (UPI) contributes to the country

According to the Reserve Bank of India, UPI transactions reached a total of INR 139.2 Trillion in Fiscal Year 2021-2022. With Gpay, PhonePE, BHIM and other UPI apps, the UPI network has reached upto France, UAE, UK, Nepal and Oman. Thanks to the international diplomatic ties, Indian UPI would now be globally accepted. During the pandemic, the growth of UPI marked 13% volume and 15% value. Besides, UPI transactions helped in saving 0.10% of GDP from going out of the country in 2020. UPI has increased its spread by 75% in volume during 2022-2023.

UPI contribution in making India economically independent

According to the PwC India report, UPI is growing at a steady pace, from 83.71 Billion transactions in 2022-23 to 379 Billion transactions in 26-27, the number of UPI transactions is likely to reach 1 Billion per day by 2026-27. UPI may go forward to replace debit card withdrawals in the coming 5 years.

UPI payment using credit card is a bomb feature that will enhance the credit system in regular use. Transparency in managing and spending money is the biggest advantage of UPI.

The use of cash is already declining, thus the usage of UPI may help in collection of fair taxes. Achievement of India in the digital payment sphere has pushed our country into the spotlight making us the leader for the global fintech ecosystem.

The adoption of UPI by other countries may lead India to surpass countries like China, the USA, Canada and the UK economically. Considering the fact that UPI is considered the most advanced invention of India worldwide. Definitely, world already has a Fintech Superpower!

Journey of



Ketaki Raut

India has become a tech powerhouse, transforming life through innovation and planning for the future. Known for their technology, with CEOs from Google and Microsoft employed in global roles in various fields like AI, Electronics, Space, and Pharmaceuticals, providing opportunities for Indians to meet their needs are met.

As we enter the digital age, opportunities like ChatGPT and AI jobs may soon be the anchors in Hindi. India has appointed Sam Altman, the AI anchor, providing opportunities of ones who have the talent to be a new technological journey. India is a tech powerhouse, providing job opportunities.

ISRO: Commitment to aim for the star and reach beyond

Folk songs: Making our local music fun



Ashlesha Kamble

Every country has their own tradition that they are known for. Folk music has an unbroken tradition from centuries in India. Other countries are embracing India's culture and being drawn towards our traditions. Each state in India has its own unique customs, culture, and folk songs that reflect the distinct way of life in that particular region.

Indian music encompasses more than just Film music or Bollywood music; it represents the essence of India and is deeply rooted in our cultural heritage.

Folk music responds to the three cycles in nature - one is life and death, day and night, season. It is music for everyone and every occasion. Indian folk music includes a wide range of

musical styles, genres with its own unique style, instruments and traditions. It also helps to promote culture identity.

Music has been always important in the life of Indian people. Lavani, Powada and Gondhal are the three famous folk songs of Maharashtra. Lavani is for entertainment purpose, powada is sung for Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and and gondhal is to worship goodness and usually has mythological stories of Gods.

Bihu songs are the most famous among music lovers in Assam and are based on themes like Assamese new year, farmers, daily life, love and more. Rajasthan's most famous folk music style is Maand, which has evolved over time.

The captivating rhythm and words of Rajasthan folk songs can enchant anyone. These songs are inspired by everyday life, emotions, and stories, and often involve dancing and storytelling.

Garba is a traditional folk music form of Gujarat. It is performed, especially during the Navratri festival. Garba is a vibrant dance style that is performed to lively music, which includes clapping, singing, and the use of instruments like dhol and traditional folk instruments. Garba is famous in the old and young alike.

Karnataka music, also known as Karnatic or Carnatic, is a form of music from southern India. It has a strong historical connection to the Vijayanagara and Woodeyar kings, who were patrons of music and literature.

Exploring India's tapestry of folk dances

Harsh Dubey

Every nook and cranny of this nation has something unique to offer, through folk songs, music, movies, literature, languages, and more. You will find references to different cultures that have shaped our very being.

Art, in particular, is something that we have been appreciative of. It gives us the freedom to express ourselves, and through this article, we want to bring to light the various forms of folk dances in India, which are widely popular all across the country. Our exploration of India's many folk dance styles begins in the south and ends in the north.

gana, particularly in Hyderabad, this folk dance festival has women carrying pots of food and water on their heads as an offering to the goddess and dancing in procession.

3) Dhemsas (Goa): The folk dance of Goa, the smallest state in our country, involves both men and women dancing together, forming circles while holding hands, and moving to the rhythm of the music.

4) Dhangari Gaja (Maharashtra): This folk dance is the speciality of the animal rears, the Dhangar community in Maharashtra that have people celebrating their culture and traditions, wearing colorful costumes, and dancing to lively steps.

5) Padhar Dance (Gujarat): The Padhar com-

Exploring

Indian

Veekat Parpo

Indian folk art and creativity, unites the country's diverse regions and beautiful paintings, beliefs, and stories.

Every story has a lot of historical enthusiasts into a rich still. The Warli art encapsulates the geometric patterns of daily activities. The diaries, documents, and nature. The art exhibit opulence and complex decorative works often portray the Indian psyche.

Further, the paintings breathe life into folklores, detailing of these goddesses, and heroes with their intricate



Art credit

Moving north
Rajasthan narrates

Voyage of dreams and challenges: A journey through merc



Sakshi Shirodkar

Who said serving India was only about going on the border and fighting with the enemy? Serving India is all about ensuring that the Indian goods are safe and sound while its on the Indian and overseas. This is exactly what merchant navy does. Meet **Prathamesh Jadhav**, who has recently joined the merchant navy in order to serve the nation.

Could you share with us something about yourself?

After my 12th I completed a one-year diploma course in nautical science at the Anglo-Eastern Maritime Academy in Karjat. I completed my

ground-based basic training and now I have been a Cadet on two ships.

Why did you decide to join Merchant Navy?

My dream was to become a commercial pilot, but dropped because of financial reasons. But upon research, I found out that Merchant Navy is same as what I wished to do, so I joined it.

How do you manage to stay connected?

It has become easy for us to be in touch with our loved ones as companies are now providing Wi-Fi connectivity on commercial ships.

What were the major challenges you faced while on the ship?

As a Cadet, I recall being on my first container ship with the Bosiet, the deck leader, and I was extremely confused on the second day. Compared to the ships, the time spent on ports was much more challenging.

Can you share any memorable incidents you had on the ship with us?

Once, I was working on the extreme end of the ship while we were on the North Atlantic Ocean. Upon hearing that someone had jumped into the water, I went to find out what had happened only to discover seven dolphins jumping together. It was beautiful sight!

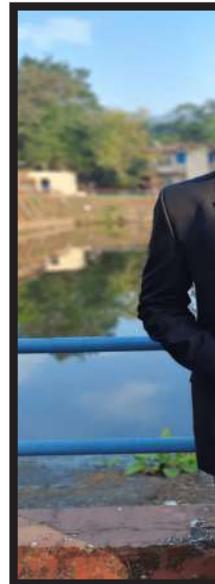
What is the difference between Merchant Navy, Indian Navy and private ships?

Merchant Navy involves transporting goods

from one country in temperature port, etc. Indian weapons and are ships transport nations. Their cre skills.

How has Merch person?

Merchant Navy hrience, beautiful r edge about many now in my ability tion with stranger a better human be



Being a warrior for our country is a matter of pride



Amruta Jadhav

When the armed enemy is in front of you, did you fear for life?

These feelings come into the mind of every person, But when there is a uniform on your body, a rifle in hand and the enemies of the country are standing in front of us, there is a different enthusiasm in the body which inspires us to put aside these fears and such thoughts and perform our duty as a soldier.

Can you share a thrilling story you experienced while you were in the Army?

After the Kargil war, I was again posted to Rajasthan. We were training to operate a tank in water for our juniors. I was I.C.U commander and I

What were you taking retirement

During the time whidier, my father pas so I decided to ret thought that I shoul I was retiring from well as happy. Sad l my army friends an with my family and today, I have kept r am ready to wear t tlefield with the san

Indian Cinema : Contributing in taking Indian culture

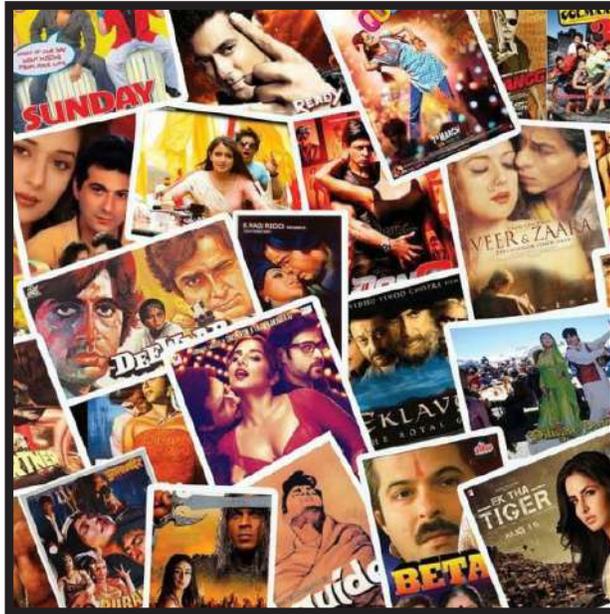
Sharvari Dandekar

India is known for its diversity in cultures, religions, art, tourism, food, people, etc. Apart from this, India is also known and lauded for its contribution to the Cinema industry. India's diversity is influencing the types of movies, thus creating a different taste in genres for audiences.

The Indian cinema industry contains mainly Bollywood, Tollywood, and other small industries like Marathi, Gujarati, Bengali, Bhojpuri, etc. Today, Indian Cinema is no longer limited to Bollywood, on the contrary, the regional flavour in the cinema makes the films even more relatable, interesting and laced with regional culture. This makes the Indian cinema rich and fresh.

Now talking about Bollywood, it is one of the largest film industries in the world, which produces over 1000 movies per year. Bollywood has been a platform to numerous iconic and legendary actors and actresses who have achieved international recognition like Raj Kapoor, Guru Dutt, Rajnikanth, Amitabh Bachchan, Shah Rukh Khan, Aishwarya Rai, Priyanka Chopra, Alia Bhatt and many more. They have not only found success within India but have also made their name in Hollywood and other international platforms.

Not just celebrities but Indian movies are also getting recognition outside India by using advanced technologies, new filming tricks, and different kinds of subjects. It's always something new and exciting. That is the reason why movies like Mera Naam Joker, Sholey, Lagaan, Dilwale Dulhaniya Le Jayenge, 3 Idiots, Munnabhai MBBS, Dangal, A Wednesday, Kabhi Alvida Na Kehna



and Sultan were s
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MONDAY, 21 AUGUST, 2023

Clenching Pinnacle

Jay Kholhatkar: Climbing Mt Everest was dream

Jay Bijutkar

Meet Jay Kholhatkar, one of our own ex-student of BMM and one of the few people in India who can boast of climbing Mount Everest. He gets candid about his experience of climbing the tallest mountain peak in the world and how he prepared for it. Excerpts...

How was your Mount Everest expedition? When did you start the climb? Which route did you take to reach the summit?

I was planning for this expedition for 4 years as it is a huge task planning mentally, physically as well as financially for this expedition. The most commonly known conventional route was planned which is the southeast ridge.

Climbing Mount Everest is a significant achievement. What challenges you faced and how you overcame them?

Climbing this massive mountain requires tremendous dedication, patience and hard work. The total length of this expedition can go upto 2 months. And 2 months without our friends and family and our comfort food is itself a big challenge. The challenges begin before the actual climb starts. The base camp of Everest is at a higher altitude of 17500 feet. To maintain your motivation and energy at this altitude is a task. Again, climbing the mountain and coming back safely is the final goal.

Preparing mentally for that is one important thing. During the ascent, tremendous change in temperature is a big task. The temperature range is -40°C to $+40^{\circ}\text{C}$.

How did you manage the health risks, acclimatisation and altitude sickness during your ascent?

High altitude expeditions possess a great health risk including high altitude sickness, cerebral oedema, pulmonary oedema. To prevent these sicknesses and have a smoother expedition, climbers have to acclimatise to the weather and oxygen levels at high altitudes. The expedition lasts upto 2 months, climbers trek till the base camp and stay there for a month or so. This helps the body to get used to the low oxygen levels at such altitudes. To make the climb a success, the body has to be in its best condition. Following strict climbing regime helps in acclimatising.

How did you adhere to ethical and sustainable practices during the expedition?

Everest being one of the most popular peaks, there are climbers representing their countries from all over the world. Nepal government has

initiated this cleanup drive every year and that includes all the expedition members depositing waste in a common trash bin. That collection of trash is then airlifted by helicopters directly to Kathmandu and is disposed.

How did you manage fear and uncertainty?

From the base camp till the summit, there are 4 camps. Usually oxygen cylinders are needed above camp 2. None of the living creatures can survive that altitude. The tension of oxygen depletion and reaching the summit eats your mental energy. I remember when me and my sherpa were descending to camp 4 from the summit, my sherpa told me that my oxygen cylinder is going to be empty soon. We still had a long way to go down. Only and only my mental strength and calmness helped me in that situation.

What would you advise aspiring trekkers?

Those who aspire to climb such a massive moun-

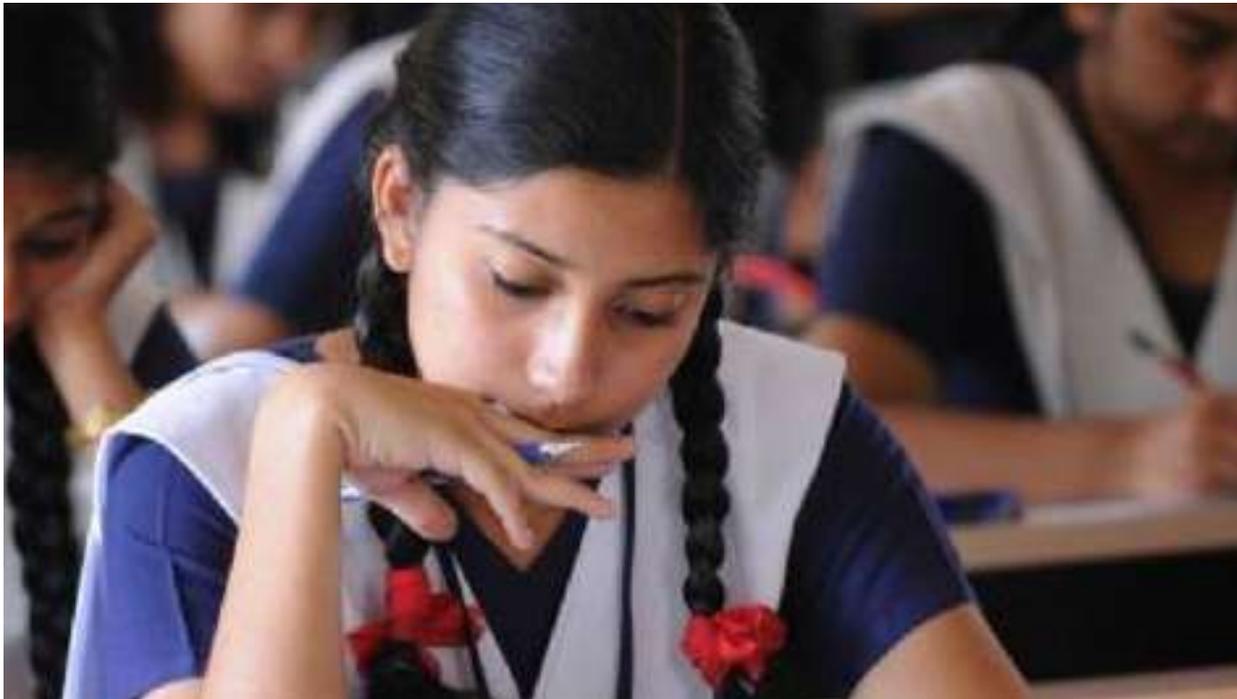
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Youth of 21st century: My definition of success



Sakshi Mahadik

We all grew up saying “I am proud of my country” The youth of the new generation are proudly saying the same sentence. A country becomes independent only when it is developing. In today’s world INDIA is the largest populated country. Approximately India has a 254 million youth population and increasing

daily. As we can also make this problem into a solution for success. Education and proper personality development is a dominant refinement inculcated in today’s generation.

Employment opportunities are a major issue in India. Most of the youth in our country get educated and proceed abroad for better employment opportunities. If the government will serve this better opportunity in our coun-

try, it will help the sector to increase and cultivate a generation of productive citizens. Modern education and opportunities for rural youth are a great economic reform. India poverty free. The population can learn to use resources. While also access to the basic

Improvement can help our country in various ways. One of them can be seen in youth taking on arduous things like a positive attitude and help to decrease the

Human history struggles, where the rest, leading to increased dressed through reform. A corruption-free and transparency in the dressing dishonest

Enhancing prove positive the and consistency in lifestyle and a success truly develop with cated.

Global trailblazers: Today’s NRIs diaspora enrich

Vedha Kadam

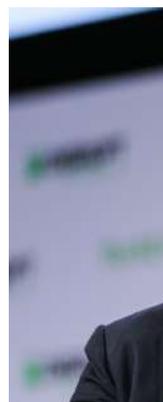
The Indian Diaspora exerts a significant influence over India, contributing to its growth. As NRIs (Non-Resident Indians) continue to prove their mettle in different fields, we take a look at two individuals in particular who have brought recognition not only to themselves but also to their homeland, India.

non-binary narratives. Through active social media engagement with fans, she promotes the importance of self-acceptance and resilience. Aneesh is truly a force to reckon with.

Her journey shows us how we can use storytelling to foster empathy and understanding and bring about social change. After all, talent knows no boundaries.

Pioneering the Future

Pranav Mistry’s journey from a curious technology enthusiast to a pioneering inventor has been remarkable. Recognized for his groundbreaking



Media Vibes

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