

# Child Friendly News



STARS OF ASIA



PG 4-5

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## MISSION MARS MAKES HISTORY

**I**ndia made history last week by successfully placing its Mars bound space craft Mangalyaan in orbit around the red planet, becoming the only country in the world to get it right the first time. Launched on November 5 2013, Mangalyaan completed a 10 month journey to Mars on September 24, 2014 and is right now orbiting the planet.

### Cheaper than an auto ride?

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is visiting the United States, told an audience there that the ride to Mars was cheaper than an autorickshaw ride in his native Ahmedabad. Amazingly, he was right.

The 650 million kilometer journey to Mars cost India 74 million dollars, and the cost per kilometer in rupees works out to Rs.7. This is indeed cheaper than an auto fare which is Rs.10 per kilometer!

The cost of building the orbiter was in fact lower than the budget for some Hollywood movies. For instance science fiction film *Gravity* cost 100 million dollars, a full one third more than Mangalyaan's 74 million dollar budget.

### India joins an elite club

Just three other nations or groups of nations – the United States, Russia and the European Union – have successfully made

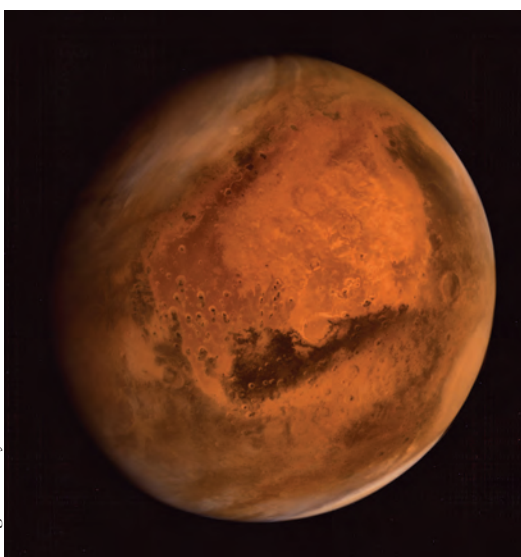


Image Courtesy: ISRO

Regional dust storm activities over Northern Hemisphere of Mars - captured by Mars Color Camera on-board Mars Orbiter Spacecraft from altitude of 74500 km on Sep 28, 2014

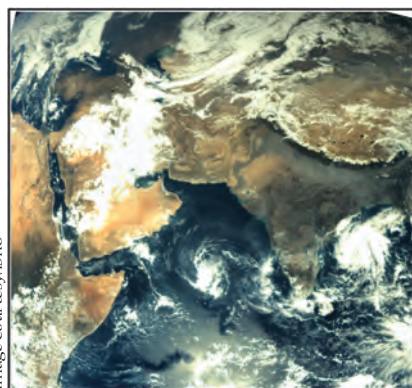


Image Courtesy: ISRO

First image of the Earth by Mars Color Camera (MCC) of Mars Orbiter Spacecraft taken on Nov 19, 2013 at 13:50 hrs (IST) from 67975 km altitude with a resolution of 353 km

it to Mars. India is now a member of that elite (exclusive) club.

### Orbiter begins work

As an orbiter, Mangalyaan will not land on Mars but will instead circle it for a year. There are no astronauts on board but it has instruments with which it will capture and send back information. Mangalyaan has already begun its scientific mission and has sent back its first images of a

dust storm on Mars (see image above).

### Instruments on Board



#### Mars Colour Camera

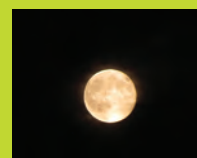
Will send back information on Mars' surface and images of the red planet



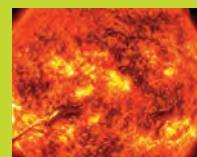
#### Methane Sensor

This instrument can sense the presence of methane gas in Mars' atmosphere. Presence of this gas is a sign that there is life on Mars.

### Exciting Missions ahead for ISRO



**2017:** India's second mission to the moon, Chandrayaan II, which will land a rover on the moon's surface



**2020:** Aditya Mission, which will study the Sun's corona

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# THE SPACE ELEVATOR OF YOUR DREAMS

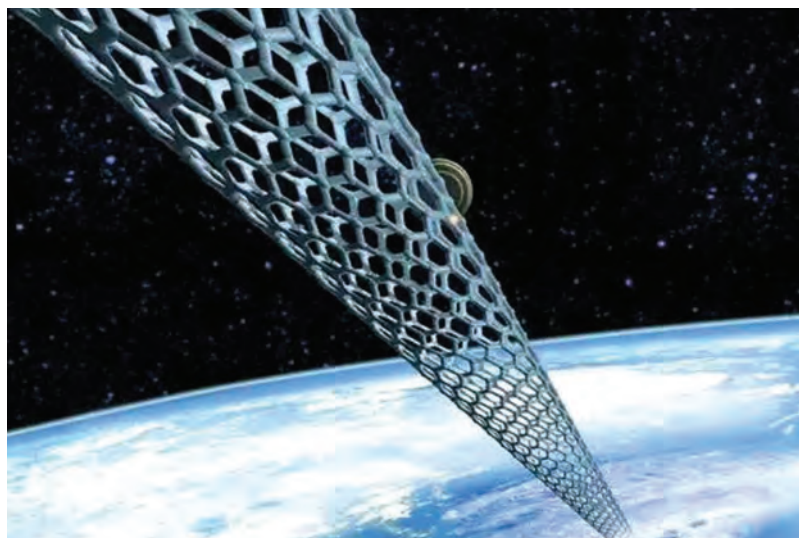
Imagine an elevator you can ride to outer space. Such a device would need to be incredibly strong (think of the distance it will have to travel and the stress from weather and temperature) yet light-weight. If it's too big and heavy, we'd never be able to get it up. Space elevators have always been the stuff of science fiction – until now. The discovery of a new light-weight, thin yet super-strong material may make the engineering of such a device practically possible in the future.

## What's the material?

Scientists at Penn State University in the United States have been able to manipulate (work on) a molecule of benzene, which is a kind of chemical made from natural elements such as carbon and hydrogen, to create this new material. The scientists worked on benzene to create a long rope of the material that is impossibly thin, yet super-strong. This new discovery belongs to be a group of substances called nanomaterials.

## What is a molecule?

A molecule is the smallest independent building block of all objects – everything that you see around you is built of thousands of molecules of basic substances such as oxygen, hydrogen (both gases) and carbon (which is a solid at normal temperatures).



This is what a space elevator could look like

"One of our wildest dreams for the nanomaterials we are developing is that they could be used to make the super-strong, lightweight cables that would make possible the construction of a 'space elevator', which so far has existed only as a science-fiction idea."

While actually making a space elevator may be many years away, the discovery of a super-light but strong material may help us make things like light-weight cars. Such cars would need much less fuel than the cars we make now. Such 'green' ideas are what we need if we want to save the Earth from the dangers of climate change!

## A BEACH TREAT

It's not everyday that you get to see dolphins on a morning walk. Not unless you live in Hawaii, or some equally beautiful sea-side spot. Never in a city, you'd think. Think again. Morning walkers in the city of Chennai, in Southern India, have been spotting dolphins close to the beach at various points in the city.

The biggest pod had around 25-30 of these intelligent mammals and they appeared to be hunting for fish, watchers said. These are Indo-Pacific Hump-backed dolphins that are found off the coast of India.

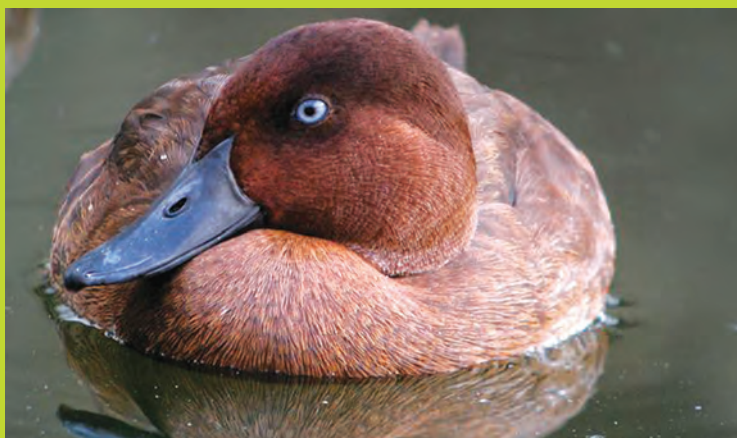
Calm seas and shallow waters offer the best conditions to see dolphins, so do keep a look out if you travel to the coast during the holidays. Early mornings and evenings offer the best chances.



## RAREST BIRD NEEDS A HOME

It's one of the world's rarest birds and right now, it is looking for a new home. The Madagascar Pochard is a diving duck species of which just 25 birds remain in the wild. All 25 live on a wetland in the north-eastern part of the island nation of Madagascar that is part of Africa.

Researchers who have been studying the bird have found out that the while the birds were hatching young, chicks rarely survived as they did not get enough to eat. Diving ducks, as their name suggests, dive into water to find food. It turned out that the wetland lake was too deep for them! The only way to save the species is to find them a new lake that isn't so deep – and last we heard, at least two wildlife conservation agencies were hard at work, finding these birds a new home.







Until one has loved an animal a part of one's soul remains unawakened.

—Anatole France



Features

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## CREATIVE SCIENCE

# A sticky answer

**G**lue is something we use all the time – to fix broken toys, paste pictures and photos, seal envelopes – the list is endless. But have you thought about how it is virtually impossible to use glue under water, or in any 'wet' scenario?

Research inspired by nature has once again provided the way out and researchers at the famous MIT institute in the United States have come up with a strong glue that works incredibly well underwater.

### The inspiration

The inspiration came from shellfish like mussels and barnacles. These creatures secrete very sticky proteins (a kind of substance produced by their bodies) that help them cling to rocks or ship hulls (the body of a ship) without coming unstuck.

To create the glue, the researchers grew a special kind of bacteria (tiny living organisms) in their lab that could also produce the special protein. In addition, the bacteria also produced biofilm proteins, the same kind that allows bacteria to stick to slippery surfaces such as the inside of a kitchen pipe. Combined together, the two proteins produced a super-strong glue that was just as strong when used underwater.



Look at the number of barnacles clinging to this sea buoy

### What will it be used for?

Things big and small – the glue could be used to repair ships, but it could be used just as effectively in surgeries (medical operations) to close wounds that would normally be difficult to close due to the liquid blood

in the hurt area.

This new magical glue is now being produced inside labs in small quantities. The next big challenge is to make it on a large scale in factories – one, we are sure, that will be overcome in time.

## THE BOOK NOOK

# Animal Stories edited by Michael Morpurgo

What's common to Charles Darwin, Ernest Hemingway, Rudyard Kipling and Jack London (other than the fact that they all wrote books)? Well, they are all authors of stories about animals. In his collection, 'Animal Stories', Michael Morpurgo has brought together some fine stories by these authors.

The book will introduce you to lesser known authors like Paul Gallico whose strangely beautiful story 'The Snow Goose' has been included in the book. The collection also contains extracts of classics like Ernest Hemingway's 'The Old Man



and the Sea,' and Charles Darwin's 'The Voyage of the Beagle.' The Beagle was the famous ship on which Darwin set sail for his voyage to South America and South East Asia, a trip that would inspire him to come up with the theory of evolution.

A happy marriage of beautiful writing and animal centric stories, the stories in this collection will appeal to the book worm and the animal-lover.

**Price:** Rs.165

**Available:** At large bookstores





### Lin Dan, **Badminton**

With a nickname like 'Super Dan', it's not surprising that China's Lin Dan is considered by many to the greatest badminton player of all time. He has won Olympic gold twice, is a five time World Champion and five time winner at the important All-England Championships. In fact he has won every major title there is to win in the badminton world.

### Manny Pacquiao, **Boxing**

This boxing legend from the Philippines has won championships in eight different weight classes (in boxing, events are divided by weight category so that matches are only between players of the same weight), an unheard of feat for a boxer. He is followed with god-like devotion in his native Philippines where he is also an elected politician.



### Sachin Tendulkar, **Cricket**

Called the 'God of Cricket' in India, Sachin Tendulkar holds just about every record worth owning in the world of cricket. The master batsman retired from the game in 2013 but by then he had picked up the record for most runs and hundreds in Tests and One Day Internationals (ODIs), and most international runs. He also holds the record for the most number of centuries (100 runs).

### Kim Yu-Na, **Figure-Skating**

Korean teenager Kim Yu-Na became a national heroine in South Korea when she won an individual gold medal in women's figure skating at the Vancouver Winter Olympics in 2008, the first female Korean to do so. She retired recently after losing the gold to Russian Adeline Sotnikova at the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics. She has won a medal in every competition she ever participated in.



### Kohei Uchimura, **Gymnastics**

The Japanese is revered as the greatest gymnast of all time. Why? He is the first gymnast in the world to win every major all-around title in a single Olympic cycle (the four years between Olympics), including four consecutive world all-around titles (2009, 2010, 2011 and 2013) and

## STARS OF ASIA

With the Asiad underway, it's a good time to find out who Asia's greatest sports persons of all time are. Here are our picks.



the 2012 Olympic All-Around Champion title.

### Vishwanathan Anand, **Chess**

The first Indian to win the title 'Grandmaster', Vishwanathan Anand put India on the world chess map. He was the World Chess Champion from 2007 to 2013. He is famous for his lightning fast moves

and is also one of six players in history to break the 2800 mark on the FIDE rating list, which grades players all over the world.



### Jahangir Khan, **Squash**

The Pakistani squash player won the world title six times and the British Open



Gold medals aren't really made of gold. They're made of sweat, determination, and a hard-to-find alloy called guts.

—Dan Gable



## Special Report

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(a very important tournament) a record ten times. From 1981 to 1986, he was not beaten in a single match, winning 555 matches in a row, the longest running winning streak by any sportsperson in top level competitive sport, for which he was awarded a Guinness World Record.



### Li Na, Tennis

The Chinese tennis player is thought of as a late bloomer, winning her first Grand Slam, the French Open at the age of 29. Three years later, in 2014, she won her first Australian Open. But age has caught up and hurting with the pain of a knee injury, Li Na announced her retirement from tennis earlier this month. She was the first Asian and first Chinese person to win a singles trophy in a Grand Slam tennis event.

### WHICH ARE THE MOST POPULAR SPORTS IN ASIA?

1. Cricket
2. Tennis
3. Soccer
4. Badminton
5. Boxing



Thanks to its popularity with the nations of the Indian sub-continent, cricket is one of the most widely watched sports in Asia

### WHICH ARE THE OLYMPIC SPORTS THAT ASIANS DOMINATE?

- Archery (Korea)
- Badminton (China)
- Diving (China)
- Gymnastics (China)
- Judo (Japan)
- Shooting (China)
- Table Tennis (China)
- Taekwondo (Korea)
- Weightlifting (China)



#### Poor form

Sadly, India does not dominate a single Olympic Sport.





## WORLD

# Its show-time in New York

**B** Brightly lit stage, strobe lights, excited announcers and the colourful swirl of dancers...it had all the ingredients of a rock concert, except, it wasn't. It was our very own Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, who was addressing a group of Indian Americans (people of Indian origin who now live in North America) in New York city in the United States (US).

If the Indian Americans rolled out a grand show for Modi, the PM had a bag of goodies for them too. Here is what he has promised:

- Persons of Indian origin (PIOs are Indians who are citizens of other countries who are visiting or temporarily living in India) will be given a permanent visa (or permission) to visit India
- PIOs staying in India for a long period would not have to report to police stations from time to time anymore.
- United States (US) citizens visiting India will be able to get a visa stamped in their passport after they land in India. This saves them the trouble of applying for one before they travel.

All this should make Modi very popular in the US! But it's his pay-back, we guess, since Indian Americans donated a lot of money for his election campaign and helped him become Prime Minister of India.



## INDIA

## CM Jaya lands in jail

The Chief Minister (CM) of Tamil Nadu, Jayalalithaa Jayaram has been sent to jail after a court in Karnataka found her guilty of wrongfully amassing (collecting) more money than she could have otherwise earned in the normal course of things.

The court found Jayalalithaa guilty of earning crores of rupees by taking bribes (illegal payments) from companies and by mis-using her powers when she was Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu between 1991 and 1996.

She now faces four years of prison life as well as a hefty fine of Rs.100 crore. She has also had to step down as Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. A good lesson that the law will catch up with you, no matter how powerful you are!



## WORLD

## Japanese volcano erupts

Mount Ontake, a volcano in Japan, erupted without warning on Sunday, September 28th, causing the death of 31 people. Most of these people were hikers enjoying a weekend trek on the mountain, when suddenly without warning, they were buried under huge clouds of hot ash, rocks, steam and poisonous gases.

In the picture you can see hikers trying to escape the looming cloud of grey ash that threatens to overpower them.

The Japanese government tracks 47 active volcanoes in the country around the clock, but admitted that predicting an eruption accurately is still very difficult.



## WORLD

## Afghanistan's new boss

Ashraf Ghani has taken over as Prime Minister of Afghanistan, a country which is one of India's north-western neighbours.







For me the most important thing was to give India the best chance of winning as many medals as possible.

—Sania Mirza on her Asian Games win



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## SPORTS

# Tennis, athletics golds for India at Asian Games

India's young tennis team and its star athletes have won gold medals for India at the Asian Games which are being staged at Incheon at South Korea until October 4, 2014. After an excellent start on the first day when shooter Jitu Rai won gold in the 50 metre pistol event, the first week was a slow one for India with no more gold medals added to the tally. The second and final week is already looking better with golds coming in tennis, athletics and wrestling.

### Tennis

Sania Mirza teamed up with Saketh Myneni to win gold in mixed doubles on Monday. The Indians defeated the Chinese Taipei pair of Hsien Yin Peng and Hao Ching Chan in straight sets 6-4, 6-3 during their final clash of the event. Myneni and his partner Sanam Singh also won silver in the men's doubles event.

### Athletics

Seema Punia Antil won India's first athletics gold in the women's discus throw event also on Monday. She threw the discus to a distance of 61.03 metres to win gold, defeating two very strong Chinese competitors. Kerala-born O P Jaisha won the bronze in the women's 1500m race while army athlete Naveen Kumar stood third in the men's 3000m steeplechase. A steeplechase is a running race where the racer must clear hurdles and waterjumps.

### Wrestling

For the first time in 28 years, India won gold in wrestling with Yogeshwar Dutt defeating Zalmikhan Yusupov of Tajikistan in the men's 65kg freestyle event last Sunday. Dutt was also a bronze medal winner at the London Olympics two years ago.

## Medal Tally

At the end of Day 10 on Tuesday, India stood at No 10 in the Medals Table, with 6 golds, 8 silvers and 32 bronzes adding upto a tally of 46 medals.



Yogeshwar Dutt with his historic gold medal



Sania Mirza and Saketh Myneni



Seema Punia

## WORLD

### Time for the Hajj

Thousands of Muslims from all over the world have gathered at the Saudi Arabian city of Mecca in West Asia for the annual Hajj pilgrimage. This is one of the world's largest religious gatherings attracting several lakh people for this year's Hajj which falls in the first week of October.

Muslims are expected to make the Hajj pilgrimage at least once in their lifetime if they are physically fit and rich enough to pay for the journey. In Mecca the most important location is the Grand Mosque which houses the Holy Kabah. Muslims believe that the Kabah was built by Abraham, an important person in the religious history of Muslims, who see him as the father of all the Arab people.

The black building in the centre of the picture is the Holy Kabah, and the sea of white is actually a crowd of Muslim worshippers at the Hajj.

Photo courtesy: Wikipedia

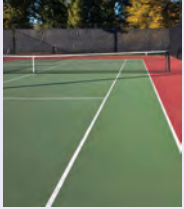






## What's your Sports IQ?

Can you identify the sport that is played on these courts?



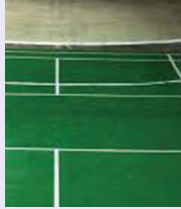
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3. Tennis  
2. Squash  
1. Badminton

Answers

## UNSCRAMBLE THE WORDS

Re-arrange the alphabets to find the word

**Hint:** All clues are linked to sports

1. EACR

2. EETPMOC

3. LGOA

4. OSREC

4. Score  
3. Goal  
2. Compete  
1. Race  
Answers

## WORD SEARCH

Can you find the words listed at the bottom of the picture?

## Harry Potter Word Search



See how many of these newspaper related words you can find in the puzzle. The words can be forward, backward or diagonal.

Created by Sue Linstead  
Grand Public Library 2011

- |             |               |               |                |
|-------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. HARRY    | 5. HOGWARTS   | 9. HUFFLEPUFF | 13. DUMBLEDORE |
| 2. HERMOINE | 6. WIZARDS    | 10. RAVENCLAW | 14. QUIDDITCH  |
| 3. RON      | 7. MUGGLES    | 11. SLYTHERIN | 15. HORCRUXES  |
| 4. HAGRID   | 8. GRYFFINDOR | 12. DURSLEYS  | 16. VOLDEMORT  |

## Top Reads for Kids and Young Adults

1. National Geographic Kids Almanac: 2015
2. Alien Escape: Space Mice Book 1 by Geronimo Stilton
3. Guinness World Records 2015
4. George and the Unbreakable Code by Stephen & Lucy Hawking
5. Lockwood & Co.: The Whispering Skull by Jonathan Stroud
6. Percy Jackson and the Greek Gods by Rick Riordan
7. The Revenge of Seven by Pittacus Lore
8. Skulduggery Pleasant: The Dying of the Light by Derek Landy
9. The Tigers of Taboo Valley by Ranjit Lal
10. Horrid High by Payal Kapadia



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Child Friendly News or CFN is an age appropriate newspaper for children in the age group 7-13. The newspaper comes out every fortnight. Every issue is written using language that young readers can understand on their own interspersed with pictures and imagery. Quick explanations of difficult words and terms and boxed elements that explain concepts accompany every article — this is to help build vocabulary as well as context understanding. Special reports take up one topic in depth

while regular columns on everyday technology concepts keep children up-to-date with the world around them. A subscription costs Rs. 650 for the year.

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