



THE TIMES OF INDIA

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GOVT MOVES ON INTEGRATED THEATRE COMMANDS

Now, 3 forces under single leadership



India has finally taken the first step towards eventually having integrated theatre commands. Under this system, all the manpower and assets of the Army, Navy and IAF will be under the operational control of a single three-star general in theatre commands. The government has amended command and control rules for joint operations and establishments. The move has been implemented especially for the

Theatre commands are seen as better for pooling resources and improving efficiency

strategically-located Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC), which was established as India's first theatre command in October 2001 but has largely failed to achieve its potential due to internecine turf wars among the three services, general politico-bureaucratic apathy, fund crunches and environmental concerns.

TIMES VIEW

■ This is the first big step towards having integrated theatre commands, where all the manpower and assets of the three services will be under the operational control of a single three-star general. This is necessary considering the dynamics of modern warfare, where a premium is put on joint planning and operations. Over 65 countries have gone in for this joint model, including all the major powers. India shouldn't lag behind.

■ The need for such internal reforms and streamlining becomes all the more necessary in light of the military's recent submission about the inadequacy of this year's defence budget.

WHY THEATRE COMMANDS

■ Theatre commands are cost effective, save resources and prepare forces for integrated land-air-sea operations

■ According to experts, unified commands are needed to handle space, cyber-space and special operations

Major military powers like the US and China operate via theatre commands. China restructured its military in 2015 to come up with six theatre commands, whereas America's theatres – the Unified Combatant Commands – are global in scope



Q WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS?
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You can also post your comments at toistudent.com



TOWARDS MEANINGFUL EDUCATION...

Imagination lies at the heart of all that is best in education. It has always been so in the way we nurture the creative arts. Advances in medicine and science are often stimulated by the imagination. The great social movements that have freed the human spirit and lifted people out of despair and deprivation have required heroic efforts by those who have imagined a better world, and have done something about it. I feel that in our present times there is a great need to re-imagine our schools! More than anything else in our society, what requires a re-look and almost a complete overhaul is the sector of education. This re-imagining of schools should involve a change in image from the school as a factory, with a focus on mass production, to the school as a studio, with a focus on uniqueness and the needs and accomplishments of individuals. Teachers today should have enough time and flexibility to get to know their kids as individuals. Teaching should be about one and only one thing: Getting to know the child, getting inside his or her psyche and getting close enough to learn something about his or her learning trajectory. As far as curriculum is concerned, there should be a school curriculum that values questions above answers, creativity above memorising facts, individuality above uniformity and excellence above standardised performance.

It is about having a system which will more choices between courses and types of providers, so that there really are different and personalised opportunities available.

This cannot happen all at once. What is necessary is that we slowly move towards addressing individual children's needs.

Pic: Mukesh Shah



The student edition of *The Times of India* that you hold today is not an ordinary edition. This is a special edition that has been exclusively edited by the principal and school students to bring you a direct feel of what a youth newspaper should read and look like. This time we invited Rev Fr Godfrey D'Sa, principal, St Joseph's High School and his dynamic editorial team to visit our premises, write stories for this edition and edit it for you. We believe, when it comes to bringing out a newspaper for students and young readers, there is nobody better than you who can guide us in our efforts.



Rev Fr Godfrey D'Sa, principal, St Joseph's High School, Wadala

genuinely give high standards for all—the best possible quality of children's services, which recognises individual needs and circumstances; the most effective teaching at school which builds a detailed picture of what each child already knows and how they learn to help them go further; and as young people begin to train for work, a system that recognises individual aptitudes and provides as many tailored paths to employment as there are people and jobs. And the corollary of this is that the system must be freer and more diverse with more flexibility to help meet individual needs; and

'Great Red Spot' is changing colour

One of the most spectacular storms in the solar system is changing colour. Once big enough to swallow three Earths, Jupiter's 'Great Red Spot' is shrivelling at a rate of 230 km per year, driving its cloud tops upwards, according to a new NASA study. Chemicals that give the oval-shaped storm its reddish hue are being lifted to higher altitudes, which may explain why the spot is gradually a more intense orange, researchers said. Scientists believe the storm is likely to disappear altogether within 20 years.

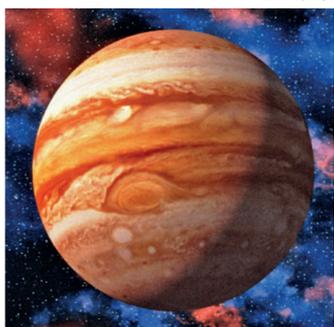


Photo: Getty Images

WHAT IS JUPITER'S GREAT RED SPOT?

■ Jupiter's Great Red Spot is a giant oval of crimson-coloured clouds in Jupiter's southern hemisphere that race counterclockwise around the oval's perimeter

■ Measuring 16,000 km in width as of April 3, 2017, it is 1.3 times as wide as Earth and gradually shrinking over time

IN THE NEWS

ANNETTE DIXON

'More female workers will boost India's GDP'

India can improve its economic growth rate by at least 1.5 percentage points, if 50% of its women join the workforce, said Annette Dixon, World Bank's vice-president for the South Asia region. But the nation must chart a new course if it has to develop as an inclusive society and reach its full potential, she added.



Women's economic empowerment is connected to poverty reduction because women tend to invest their earnings in their family's development and their communities. The intergenerational benefits of women working in the workforce are profound

Annette Dixon

VITAL STATISTICS

According to World Bank estimates, India's women in the workforce contribute 17% to GDP, which is less than half the global average. In China, it is as high as 40%. As of 2012, only 27% of Indian women had a job or were actively looking for one, compared with 79% for men. More worrying, in the past decade, more than 20 million Indian women – which was equivalent of Sri Lanka's population – dropped out of the workforce

NEED OF THE HOUR

According to Dixon, mere skilling is required as women often drop out of the workforce after they become mothers. Society needs to spark interest of young girls in subjects like science and mathematics and convince them that they are just as capable as boys, she said. Employers need to talk the walk regarding supporting women in workplace by hiring women and paying them the same wages as they pay men in similar jobs, she added.

VIEWPOINT

CISF launches mobile app for lost items at airports

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has launched a mobile application through which travellers can register complaints to recover items they lost or forgot at various airports.

THE BENEFITS

"The main advantage of this mobile app is that passengers can directly register complaints and get status of their complaint immediately from the airports under our security cover," CISF spokesperson Assistant Inspector General (AIG) Hemendra Singh said.

The mobile phone application can also be used to place a request for obtaining technical consultancy provided by the force.



The 'Lost and Found' scheme was first launched by the force on its website in 2015 to trace and restore items and valuables left behind by the commuters at airports.

The CISF restored property worth

₹50.05 crore last year while valuables/items worth ₹5.49 crore were restored to the passengers this year through the web portal.

The CISF guards 59 civil airports across the country.

The app called 'Lost and Found' can be downloaded from the website of the information and technology ministry.



WILL THIS APP PROVE BENEFICIAL FOR COMMUNERS?

Share your views at toinie175@gmail.com

SPACE TALK

NASA plans to launch next planet hunter on April 16

NASA is targeting April 16 for the launch of its next planet-hunting spacecraft on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in Florida.

Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) is expected to find thousands of planets outside our solar system, known as exoplanets.

Photo: Getty Images



planets, orbiting the nearest and brightest stars in our cosmic neighbourhood. The mission will find exoplanets that periodically block part of the light from their host stars, events called transits.

ACTION-REACTION

FEEL STRONGLY ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND, VOICE IT HERE



Do we need board exams?

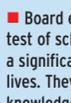
■ Exams are important in life. It brings seriousness and helps students to focus on their studies. Healthy competition to get more marks boosts confidence. Board exams allow students to be more independent to face bigger battles in life. Surely, board exams are essential for students.

NIHAR PARIKH, class VII



■ We must have board exams as they are very competitive and judge students accurately if they can be promoted to college. From these results which students get, they can choose their stream in college. This is a good way to boost confidence of students and to help them face challenges.

CHAITANYA HARIKRISHNAN, class VII



■ Board exams are the final test of school life. They play a significant role in our lives. They help assess our knowledge and enable us to know our academic status. Board exams also helps us to identify our lacunae and open up further avenues of learning.

UMANG ACHALIA, class VII



■ Board exams are very important. They are the first prominent test of one's academic life. They can determine the profession that we will select. By scoring good marks in board exam, children examine themselves with regards to how much effort, attention and concentration they have put in for getting higher grades.

AADITYA MISHRA, class VII

The man behind A Million Pledges for Organ Donation

Star Alumni Pankaj Agarwal, who is a renowned businessman, shares his success mantra with budding journalists from St Joseph's High School. Read on to know more...

Pic: Mukesh Shah



the field of education, which is nothing short of a miracle.

Q: What is your vision for the school?

Q: What role has the school played in your life?

It would not be out of place to say that my school has been my third parent. My core education, personality and outlook towards life is due to my teachers and the values they imbibed in me during my school days. I'd like to thank the school's management and the entire team of Times NIE for this opportunity. I am privileged to be chosen as one of the alumnus of the school that has had a hundred years of growth in

I dream of a day when our school gets the recognition and glory it deserves for having churned out honest, smart, sensitive and well-educated young citizens. And of course, great teachers.

Q: What inspired you to start the organ donation campaign? How would you describe the journey?

Our school celebrated its centenary year in 2016-17. Sometime in mid-2015, Principal Rev Fr Godfrey D'Sa made a clarion call for all the ex-students to come and add value in making it an epoch. This was when we started identifying some cause that we could adopt and foster. Organ donation is the need of the hour. As a team,

we decided to put our might behind this cause. The journey has just begun. So far, it has been extremely rewarding. We have made teams and spoken about the cause within our school, other schools, corporates, management institutes and even Ganpati pandals. The odds were staggering! But we hope to make a serious dent and achieve a million pledges to donate organs as soon as possible. We also look forward to some CSR funding to espouse this cause. But success is a long way off and it is also relative.

Q: What would you like to share with young Josephites?

My young boys of Joseph's, just live your school motto 'Ad Majora Natus Sum', which translates to 'We are born for greater things'.

- Aaron Fernandes and Ian D'Souza, class VIII

