



The social media platforms have taken over the distribution of news globally. They treat a lie the same way you would treat a fact.

-Maria Ressa



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Maria Angelita Ressa is a Filipino-American journalist and author, the co-founder and CEO of Rappler, and the first Filipino Nobel Prize laureate. She previously spent nearly two decades working as a lead investigative reporter in Southeast Asia for CNN.



Blue Origin plans to build 'space business park'

A space business park

Aerospace Blue Origin recently took its first passengers to space. It also took William Shatner, the oldest person to space in its second flight. Blue Origin is a space travel company founded by Jeff Bezos, the founder of the company Amazon.

Now, on Monday, 25 October, Blue Origin announced its plans to build a space business park.

This space station for tourists and business people is called Orbital Reef. Blue Origin is working on this project with another company, Boeing. Other than Boeing, Blue Origin is also building the space station with some other organisations including Arizona State University.



Blue Origin says Orbital Reef will work as a "space business park" where space agencies, companies, business people and inventors can come and create new markets in space.

Orbital Reef

The park can have up to 10 people and it can be used to shoot films, do scientific experiments and also act as a "space hotel". They aim to launch the spacecraft before 2030.

Indian-origin Anita Anand is Canada's new defence minister

Canada's new defence minister

In September this year, Canada held parliamentary elections to elect members of the House of Commons. And current Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's party won by a narrow margin.

While he remains as the Prime Minister, Trudeau recently conducted a reshuffle of his cabinet, selecting some new ministers. 38 new ministers were sworn in.

One of the biggest appointments was a new Minister of National Defence. The new minister is Anita Anand, an MP (member of parliament) of Indian origin. She is only the second woman to hold the post of Canada's defence minister. Moreover, she is the first Indian-Canadian of a Hindu background to become a federal (central) minister in Canada.

Anand was born in Canada to doctor parents. Her mother is from Punjab and her father is from Tamil Nadu. She worked as a professor and lawyer before she became an MP. Anand was previously the procurement minister and helped secure Canada's supply of COVID-19 vaccines.

The previous defence minister was Harjit Sajjan. He is also of Indian origin and held the post for 6 years.

Environment minister

Another important appointment was Steven Guilbeault, the new environment minister. Guilbeault was a well-known climate activist before he entered politics. PM Trudeau considers climate change as an important subject and this appointment reflects that stand.

What are contact lenses?

Contact lenses, or simply contacts, are thin lenses placed directly on the surface of the eyes. They help us to see better. Some people also wear them to change their eye colour temporarily.

Today, over 150 million people worldwide use contact lenses worldwide. And we have Otto Wichterle to thank for them.

Otto Wichterle was a Czech chemist who invented the soft contact lens. He was born on this day in 1913 in Prostějov, the Czech Republic (then, Austria-Hungary).

Today is his 108th birth anniversary and Google is celebrating the inventor with a special doodle.

Otto Wichterle, the inventor of soft contact lenses

In the doodle, you can see Wichterle holding a single piece of contact lens upon his fingertips. The light is reflected from the Google logo in the background that represents eyesight. Along with this, Google also wrote "Happy birthday, Otto Wichterle—thanks for helping the world see eye to eye!"

Otto Wichterle

Coming from a business family, Wichterle was a lover of science from his youth. While working at the Prague Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), he developed an absorbent and transparent gel for eye implants. Later, this led to his invention of the soft contact lenses that we use today.

Moreover, his innovations also helped us to develop advanced medical technologies such as "smart" biomaterials. These are artificial materials used to restore human connective tissues.

He passed away on 18 August 1998.



DID YOU KNOW ?

- The asteroid number 3899 was named after Otto Wichterle in 1993.
- The first space station was Salyut 1, which was launched by the Soviet Union on 19 April 1971.
- Canada is the largest country in the Western hemisphere and the second-largest country in the world after Russia..

WORD OF THE DAY

Today's Word of the Day is "contemptuous" and its adjective meaning showing no sign of life; lifeless.

Pronunciation: con-temp-tu-ous

Usage: 'she was intolerant and contemptuous of the majority of the human race'

Antonyms: respectful

SYNONYMS

Iscornful, disdainful, disrespectful, insulting, insolent, full of contempt, derisory, derisive, mocking, sneering, jeering, scoffing, taunting, withering, scathing, snide, condescending, supercilious, arrogant, cavalier, high and mighty, imperious, proud, vain, informal sniffy, snotty, on one's high horse, archaic contumelious

Origin : Mid 16th century (in the sense 'despising law and order'): from medieval Latin contemptuosus, from Latin contemptus 'contempt', from contemnere (see condemn).

Hindi Meaning

CONTEMPTUOUS= तिरस्कारपूर्ण [pr. {tiraskarapurN}](Adjective)

Usage : His contemptuous attitude with his wife shows his uneducatedness.

उदाहरण : अपनी पत्नी के साथ उनका तिरस्कारपूर्ण रवैया उसकी क्रूरता को दर्शाता है।



ENGLISH CLUB

Phrasal Verb-come around

Meaning: to visit somebody, usually at their home

Usage: Why don't you come around after work and have a swim in my pool?.

Today's Idiom above the law

Meaning: If someone is above the law, they are not subject to the laws of a society.

Usage: Just because his father is a rich and powerful man, he seems to think he's above the law and he can do whatever he likes.

Maths Puzzle

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Bear} + \text{Bear} &= 120 \text{ Kg} \\ \text{Rabbit} + \text{Bear} &= 70 \text{ Kg} \\ \text{Bear} + \text{Fox} + \text{Rabbit} &= 90 \text{ Kg} \end{aligned}$$

What is the weight of each animal?

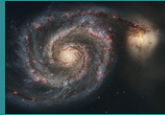
Science News

Date: October 27, 2021

Source:Center for Astrophysics, Harvard & Smithsonian

Astronomers may have discovered a planet outside of our galaxy

Summary: Signs of a planet transiting a star outside of the Milky Way galaxy may have been detected. The finding opens up a new window to search for exoplanets at greater distances than ever before.



Answer: If two bears are 120kg, one bear is 60kg. A bear and a rabbit are 70kg. If the bear is 60kg alone, then the rabbit is 10kg. Since the bear and the rabbit are 70kg, the weight remaining for the fox is 20kg.