

IN BRIEF



NASA will fly a drone to Titan in search for life
WASHINGTON
NASA plans to fly a drone copter to Saturn's largest moon Titan in search of the building blocks of life, the space agency said on Thursday. The Dragonfly mission, which will launch in 2026 and land in 2034, will send a rotorcraft to fly in areas across the icy moon. **AFP**



Jobs' design collaborator to leave Apple
SAN FRANCISCO
Jony Ive, a close creative collaborator with Apple Inc co-founder Steve Jobs whose iPhone and other designs led Apple Inc.'s rise to a \$1 trillion company, will leave later this year to form an independent design company. Mr. Ive will continue on Apple products at his new venture. **REUTERS**



2 Indians among winners of 'Airbus Fly Your Ideas'
TOULOUSE
A Dutch university team of four students, including two Indians — Ashwini Narayanan and Sujay Narayana, won this year's 'Airbus Fly Your Ideas' competition for their prototype on the application of wireless systems in aircraft instead of wired systems. **PTI**



Dutch roll out fines for cyclists using phones
THE HAGUE
Dutch cyclists from Monday will face a €95 fine for holding mobile phone while riding a bike, in a bid to cut the growing number of accidents. Smartphones were involved in one in every five bike accidents. **AFP**

Final blow



Done and dusted: A cloud of dust rises as the remaining spans of the Morandi bridge, which collapsed nearly a year ago killing 43 people, were demolished in Genoa, Italy, on Friday. **AP**

Twitter to label politicians and officials' rule-breaking tweets

It will be applied to verified users with over 1,00,000 followers

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE WASHINGTON
Twitter said on Thursday it would label and "deprioritise" tweets from officials and politicians that violate its rules — a move potentially affecting the prodigious output of U.S. President Donald Trump.

The new policy enables it to move against rule-breaking comments on the short-messaging service while enabling messages and announcements that are important for public debate.

Warning notice
In these cases, users will see a notice about a tweet which violates the rules and must then tap or click through to see the message.



Twitter will issue a notice to the user about tweets that violate the rules. **REUTERS**

Twitter will also "take steps to make sure the tweet is not algorithmically elevated on our service, to strike the right balance between enabling free expression, fostering accountability, and reducing the potential harm caused by these tweets," according to a statement from the Twitter safety team.

"In the past, we've allowed certain tweets that violated our rules to remain on Twitter because they were in the public's interest, but it wasn't clear when and how we made those determinations," the company said. "To fix that, we're introducing a new notice that will provide additional clarity in these situations, and sharing more on when and why we'll use it."

Rare cases
Twitter said it expected these cases to be "rare" and that the new policy would only apply to verified political candidates and government officials with more than 1,00,000 followers. It will not affect tweets sent prior to the announcement.

Crocodiles were once vegetarians

Some of the reptiles of Mesozoic era relied mainly on plant-dominated diets: study

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE WASHINGTON
Crocodiles are sometimes described as living fossils for their close resemblance to their forebears who roamed the earth during the age of the dinosaurs.

But if you happened to find yourself a time machine that sent you back to the Mesozoic Era, not all the crocodiles you would come across would size you up as a tasty meal.

That's according to a new study published in *Cell Press*



A crocodile sunbathing at Yala National Park near Colombo, Sri Lanka. **AFP**

on Thursday that fed high-resolution scans of 146 teeth from 16 extinct species into a computer model and determined that, unlike their modern progeny who are known for their ferocity,

some early crocodyliforms were an altogether more peaceful lot.

'Tooth complexity'
"What is really fascinating about this is a lot of these teeth are unlike anything we see today," Keegan Melstrom, a doctoral student at the University of Utah, who conducted the research along with his supervisor Randall Irmis, said.

To determine what tooth complexity reveals about diet, Mr. Melstrom relied on

previous work on heterodonty in mammals, and his own earlier findings about teeth differences in reptiles.

"Some were similar to living crocodylians and were primarily carnivorous, others were omnivores, and still others likely specialised in plants," he said, adding that they lived on different continents and at different times.

What remains a mystery, however, is what made crocodyliforms eat plant-dominated diets, and why they disappeared.

U.S. city pays ransom of \$4,60,000

PATRICIA MAZZEI MIAMI

Even the phones went down in the government of Lake City, Florida, after hackers launched a cyber-attack that disabled the city's computer systems which began on June 10 when an employee clicked on a malicious email and infected the city's computers with ransomware.

For several days after computer systems were paralysed by a ransomware attack, a staff of the small town worked with the FBI and an outside security consultant to restore phone lines, email and on-line utility payments. But in the end, city leaders reluctantly agreed paying the hackers the ransom they demanded: 42 bitcoin, or about \$4,60,000. **NY TIMES**

'Wonder of nature': Serbia's donkey cheese

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE SERBIA

White, dense and rich in flavour, Serbia's one-of-a-kind donkey cheese is not only delicious but also good for health, says maker Slobodan Simic.

There's only one catch — at €1,000 (\$1,130) per kg, it may well be the most expensive cheese in the world.

Since 2012, Mr. Simic and his team of farmers have been milking a herd of more than 200 donkeys who live



The cheese business also aims at protecting the Balkan donkey. **AFP**

on a nature reserve in northern Serbia, called Zasavica.

For him, the business is also a way to protect the Balkan donkey, an animal that

has become less prevalent as machines take their place in agriculture.

Their milk has similar properties to breastmilk and is touted by Mr. Simic as a cure for a range of ailments, including asthma and bronchitis. "A human baby can take this milk from the first day, without having it diluted," he says, calling it a "wonder of nature".

While a lack of scientific studies make it difficult to assess its health properties,

the milk is high in protein and has been recognised by the UN as a good alternative for those with allergies to cow's milk.

But "what no one in the world does, and could never make, is the donkey cheese," Mr. Simic said of his flagship product.

The unique product made headlines in 2012 after rumours spread that Serbia's tennis star Novak Djokovic had bought up an annual supply — which he denied.




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