

## IN BRIEF



### YouTube fined over kids' data privacy breach

**SAN FRANCISCO**  
YouTube has reached a multimillion-dollar settlement with the U.S. Federal Trade Commission over alleged violations of children's data privacy after an investigation found the website improperly collecting children's data. **IANS**



### Mt. Etna, Italy's biggest live volcano, erupts

**ROME**  
Italy's Mount Etna, Europe's biggest live volcano, erupted overnight with lava flows and explosions, volcanologists said on Saturday. The eruption forced the closure of two airports in Sicily's second-biggest city of Catania. **AFP**



### Will call Swedish PM about A\$AP: Trump

**WASHINGTON**  
U.S. President Donald Trump said he would call Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven about American rapper A\$AP Rocky (in picture), who has been detained in Sweden over a street brawl case. "So many people would like to see this quickly resolved!" Mr. Trump tweeted. **REUTERS**



### Scientists develop AI to curb 'deepfake' videos

**NEW DELHI**  
A team of Indian-origin researchers in California has developed a system driven by artificial intelligence to identify altered content at the pixel level. The team is currently working on still images which will eventually help them detect "deepfake" videos. **IANS**

## Beauty firms cash in on Thailand's giant snails

Mucus said to have anti-ageing element

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
NAYOK**

Giant snails, once loathed by Thailand's rice farmers for eating the buds of new crops, are now more valuable than gold to some cosmetic firms.

The precious slime is patiently "milked" from the glands of the snail by dripping water over it using a pipette. Its raw form is sold to Aden International, a Thailand-based cosmetics company that ships its products to Korea and the U.S.

Somkamol Manchun, who is an expert in the purification process of the serum, said snail mucus contains collagen and elastin which "can make skin firm with less wrinkles". It also helps in healing the skin, she said.

Aden was started three years ago as a business solution to the snail infestation in Nakhon Nayok, said founder Kitpong Puttarathuvannun. "We found that our



**Snail hacks:** The serum of a snail is milked at a farm in Nakhon Nayok province in Thailand. **AFP**

# Venice Film Critics' Week to open with animated film from India

Set on the streets of Mumbai, *Bombay Rose* moves from real life to fantasy, accompanied by much-loved Bollywood songs

**NAMRATA JOSHI  
MUMBAI**

Gitanjali Rao's *Bombay Rose* will be the first Indian animation film to open the Venice International Film Critics' Week. A Cinestaan Film Company production, the hand-painted animation film is written, designed and directed by Ms. Rao and marks her feature film debut. The August 29 screening will mark the world premiere of the film.

The Venice International Film Critics' Week is an independent, parallel section organized by the National Union of Italian Film Critics during the Venice International Film Festival.

"It has been our privilege to work with Gitanjali and

Paperboat Studios over the last two years to bring this piece of beautiful cinema to life," said producer Rohit Khattar of Cinestaan in a press statement.

### 'Love letter'

He described the film as "a stunning love letter to Mumbai and its people".

"A chronicle of the people who migrate from small towns, seeking minimal life in the maximum city", the film is based on true events and "explores the ruthlessness of a society where the love and life that reign on the big screen can crush you in its mean streets," he said.

Painted painstakingly and passionately, frame by frame, something Ms. Rao is



**Magical lines:** A still from *Bombay Rose* and, right, Gitanjali Rao. **SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT**



renowned for, it is about a red rose bringing together three tales – love between two flower sellers, love between two women, and the love of an entire city for its Bollywood stars. Set on the

streets of Mumbai, it moves from real life to fantasy, accompanied by much loved Bollywood songs.

The depiction of urban reality is done in a documentary style, whereas the intri-

cate dream worlds are inspired from the rich and varied folk art styles of India.

Critically acclaimed for her debut as an actor last year, Ms. Rao is a self-taught animator and filmmaker who

emerged on the international stage with an animated short, *Printed Rainbow*, which premiered in Cannes Critics Week 2006 (and won the Kodak Discovery Award, Petite Rail d'Or and Prix Du Jeune). It went on to win 25 awards and was shortlisted for the Oscars in 2008.

Her five independently produced animated shorts – *Blue, Orange, Printed Rainbow, Chai and True Love Story* – have been to over 150 international film festivals and received more than 30 awards.

### Struggle for survival

She describes *Bombay Rose* as a story about simple people with their simple yet impossible dreams. "I have al-

ways wanted to paint stories about people who live and love on the streets of Bombay, never becoming success stories. Yet, their struggle for survival makes heroes out of them. This is the city with its cast of unsung heroes and heroines that I want to share with the world and [this is] why I started this labour of love six years ago," said Ms. Rao.

This year, the Venice film festival takes place from August 27 to September 7.

*Bombay Rose* is co-produced with Film d'Ici and was delivered at Mumbai-based Paperboat Animation Studios. Working creatively alongside Ms. Rao was acclaimed sound designer P.M. Sathesh.

## Russian website offering 'paid' research authorship under probe

73 of the 344 papers offered for sale are from journals based in India

**R. PRASAD  
CHENNAI**

An "online marketplace" claiming to facilitate sale and purchase of authorships for research papers that have been accepted for publication in scientific journals has been brought to light by the Web of Science, part of London-based Clarivate Analytics, which provides analytical services to journals and innovation companies.

An investigation by the company showed that a Russian website (<http://123mi.ru>) claims to facilitate the fraudulent publication. Retraction Watch blog was the first to report the scam.

A Google translation of the claims on the Russian website says, "We sell publications of finished articles in Scopus and Web of Science journals (articles written and accepted in journals; sold in parts or in whole)."

It asks researchers to part with hundreds of dollars to become authors of papers that they never worked on, promising definite publication and indexing.

The website lists 344 articles for which first, second,



clear if individuals parted with money.

It is also unclear if any papers have actually been published, or if the Russian website is just an online scam operation.

### First-author fee

The cost of first authorship is highest and reduces for the successive authors. The cost of first authorship varies from \$285 to \$1,222.

Papers with five potential authors have been listed, although the norm is to have three or four.

"The articles have been accepted for publication in journals that are allegedly indexed. We do not know the identity of the authors or journals... We are investigating and trying to identify the journals. We will take appropriate action," Amy Bourke-Waite, External Communications Director, Web of Science Group, Clarivate Analytics, said in an email to *The Hindu*.

The website does not mention the name of the journals or the title of the 344 papers. It says that the names of the journals and titles will be "available only to

customers who have paid". But it does provide information about journal disciplines, country of publication, the number of authors per paper, short description of the article and if the journal is indexed in Scopus and/or Web of Science.

"The primary transaction appears to be author-to-author (with the owners of the service presumably taking a cut) but beyond allowing post-acceptance changes in the author lists, it's not clear to what extent journal editors or publishers are aware of, or involved in this enterprise," Nandita Quadri, editor-in-chief of Web of Science said in a July 17, 2019, letter to Natalie Ridgeway, executive officer of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), a non-profit that promotes integrity in research and publication.

"I wanted to bring this to your attention early as you may want to warn COPE members of this activity as soon as possible and perhaps take this opportunity to share best practice guidelines regarding post-acceptance changes to author lists," she said.

**AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE  
PARIS**

The humble back of the human body is almost never seen in fashion images, forgotten amid the focus on the front and faces.

A new Paris exhibition, however, aims to redress this imbalance, with visitors being confronted by mannequins with their backs turned.

The exhibition, organised by the Palais Galliera fashion museum, is showing at the Bourdelle Museum amid its famous collection of plaster statues. Curators say one of the aims of the exhibition is to explore the relationship with the back through the complex fastenings imposed on women throughout history as a symbol of submission.

Excluding the straitjacket, no men's clothing item has ever fastened at the back. But women's clothing often has been, leaving them in a position of dependence.

"Anatomically, the body is not made to put its arms behind the back. Fastening at the back is unnatural," said Alexandre Samson, curator of the exhibition which runs until November 17.

## Paris show gives the humble back its place in the limelight

Traces hooks and closures on women's attire down the ages



**Watch me:** A dress by German fashion designer Karl Lagerfeld is featured as part of the new exhibition in Paris. **AFP**

At the end of the 15th century, lacing appeared on the backs of women of all social classes. Without the luxury of chambermaids, peasant women had to ask their brothers, fathers or husbands for help.

Hook-and-eye closure appeared in the 18th century, corsets arrived in the 19th century and closed in front, laced at the back.

A landmark moment came when Rita de Acosta Lydig, a high-flying American socialite, caused a scandal by showing off her bare back in a simple black dress at the Metropolitan Opera in New York in the early years

of the 20th century. A more recent "back fashion scandal" occurred in June 2018, when U.S. First Lady Melania Trump visited a camp for undocumented immigrant children at the Mexican border. The words on the back of her parka sent a powerful message: "I really don't care, do you?"

According to the organisers of the Paris exhibition, modern society is obsessed with people's faces while the back is more a reminder of our limitations.

"Our back is the only part of ourselves that we don't see and that others do," Mr. Samson said.

## On an adventure



**Flying out:** Astronauts Andrew Morgan, Alexander Skvortsov and Luca Parmitano prepare for the launch to the International Space Station on the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 moon landing on Saturday. **REUTERS**

## Ukraine museum showcases 'election trash'

Display highlights questionable practices ahead of snap polls in the country

**ASSOCIATED PRESS  
KIEV**

A Darth Vader costume, playground equipment, pastries and boxes of food are part of an exhibit at Ukraine's National History Museum displaying the colourful behaviour and sometime-questionable practices that characterise the country's elections.

The exhibition, called

"The Museum of Election Trash", was put together ahead of the country's snap parliamentary elections on Sunday.

Ukraine is characterised by lively election campaigns unlike neighbouring Russia. One of the candidates in this year's election is Darth Viktorovich Vader, who is running for a seat in Odessa. Another Darth Vader ran for

president in 2014. The "electoral trash" collection also highlights candidates' efforts to influence voters through gifts, with exhibits including colourful equipment for a town playground that one candidate provided to voters before an election, along with pastries and boxes of foodstuffs.

The Star Wars theme continues this year with the

election being widely called "Battle of the Clones", with candidates mimicking the recently elected President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, also a former TV comic, and his Servant of the People party. Mr. Zelenskyy starred in a show with the same name and later launched his party. This time, he has urged voters to be careful not to vote for 'copycats'.

## New species of shark squirts clouds of light

It was found in the Gulf of Mexico

**ASSOCIATED PRESS  
NEW ORLEANS**

A pocket-sized pocket shark found in the Gulf of Mexico has turned out to be a new species.

The pouches near its front fins squirt little glowing clouds into the ocean, scientists said. Researchers from around the Gulf and in New York have named the species the American pocket shark, or *Mollisquama mississippiensis*.

It is only the third out of more than 500 known shark species that may squirt luminous liquid, said R. Dean Grubbs, a Florida State University scientist who was not involved in the research. He said the other two are the previously known pocket shark, which has a similar gland near its tail.



The shark has light-emitting cells dotted on its belly. **AFP**

"You have this tiny little bulbous luminescent shark cruising around in the world's oceans and we know nothing about them," said Mr. Grubbs, ex-president of the American Elasmobranch Society of scientists who study sharks, skates and rays.

Like the other 16-inch pocket shark known to science, this 5.6-inch newborn male fished out of the Gulf has a pouch next to each front fin. The luminescence might conceal the shark from prey or from predators, scientists said.

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SRINAGAR**  
HAZRATBAL SRINAGGAR - 190006

**Corrigendum to**  
**Advertisement No. 02 (NF) of 2019 Dated: 11.07.2019**  
**Due to typographical error, the Experience for the post of Registrar has been wrongly shown as 5 Years.**

Please read experience clause for the post of Registrar as under:-  
**Experience:**

- Holding analogous Post.
- At least **15 year's experience** as Assistant Professor in the **AGP of 7000/-** and above or with **8 years of service** in the **AGP of 8000/-** and above including as **Associate Professor** along with 3 years experience in educational administration, or
- 15 years of administrative experience** of which 8 years shall be a Deputy Registrar of an equivalent post in the GP of **Rs. 7600/= or above.**

No: NIT/PT/19/1688, Dated: 19.07.2019  
No: NIT/R/19/426, Dated: 19.07.2019

**Sd/**  
**(Registrar)**