

5top

Bizarre musical instruments

1 Musical Road



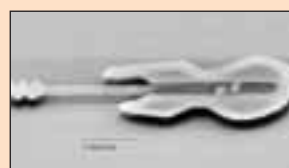
Roads that play a tune when one drives at a certain speed are located in the Japanese cities of Hokkaido, Wakayama and Gunma

2 Harpsichord

This wireless harpsichord, created by Henry Lim, is made up of plastic bricks and related pieces manufactured by LEGO, a leading toy maker



3 Nano Guitar



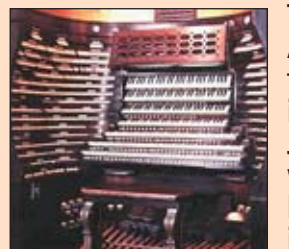
The world's smallest guitar is just 10 micrometres long (the size of a single cell) and has six strings, each of which is 50 nanometres long

4 Sea Organ

Located on the shore of Zadar, Croatia, it is the world's first musical pipe organ that is played by the sea



5 Hall Organ



The Convention Hall Auditorium Organ at the Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City, New Jersey, is the world's largest and loudest musical instrument

SOURCE: WWW.ODDEE.COM

Hindustan Times

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Young soccer champs

Army Boys, Bangalore defeated Government Central Higher Secondary School, Aizawl 2-1 to lift the Under-17 Subroto Cup trophy on Thursday **PAGE 8**

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As the telescope turns 400, a toast to India's first spy glass

● Press Trust of India
Tiruchirapalli, September 25

AS THE world celebrates the 400th birth anniversary of the telescope, a pillar in Nungambakkam, Chennai, believed to be part of the first observatory built outside Europe bears the sole testimony of the key astronomical instrument's entry into India in 1786.

The 'spy glass', as the telescope is otherwise known, entered the subcontinent when a British official gifted it to Mughal emperor Jahangir (1605-1627). It, however, failed to get the attention of Jahangir and remained an object of curiosity.

Regular use of the telescope in India had to wait till the arrival of William Price, an official of the British East India Company in Madras in 1786, who built a private observatory.

It was later taken over by his company, which built the first full-fledged observatory outside Europe on the banks of the Cooum river in Nungambakkam which served local astronomers for over a century.

The observatory building disappeared along with time, but the pillar announcing the "planting" of mathematical sciences by the British still remains. "Posterity may be informed more than 1000 years hence of the period when the mathematical sciences were first planted by the British liberality in Asia", it said, perhaps unaware of the great contributions of the great Indian astronomer Aryabhata, 1,000 years before Copernicus. A new telescope was installed in Madras in 1850, using which, one of the directors of the observatory, Norman Robert Pogson, discovered six variable stars and as many asteroids.



JAYANTO

MELODY OF PEACE



REUTERS

Members of Kashmir's first rock band, Immersion, from left, King Paul Singh, Amit Wanchoo, Mahmeet Syed, Bilal Ahmad and Irfan Bhat, in Srinagar on Thursday. The band says it will try to erase the scars and trauma of young Kashmiris through music.

What do you think of this picture? Write to us at feedbacknext@hindustantimes.com

QUOTE OF THE DAY

Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending — Maria Robinson

HAPPY B'DAY



THOMAS STEARNS ELIOT
(September 26, 1888 - January 4, 1965), Poet, dramatist, and literary critic who received the Nobel Prize in 1948. He is famous for poem *The Love Song of J Alfred Prufrock* and play *Murder in the Cathedral*

EARLY START

Austria gives 16-year-olds the right to vote

AUSTRIA WILL make history in the European Union on Sunday by becoming the first member of the 27-nation bloc to give 16-year-olds a voice in national elections.

An estimated 200,000 Austrian teenagers will thus be able to exercise their franchise in an exercise that could eventually encourage more countries across the world to follow suit and reduce the voting age to 16.

Currently, the only other countries that allow voting at 16 include Brazil, Cuba, Nicaragua and the Isle of Man, a British dependency in the Irish Sea.

As in most other parts of the world, India still retains 18 years as the minimum voting age.

Austrian 16-year-olds have already been able to vote in some local elections. The same is true in other places, including neighbouring Germany.

Following the collapse in July of the governing coalition between the center-left Social Democrats and the centre-right People's Party, 10 parties have said they want to take a stab at ruling the Alpine republic.

With a tight race predicted at the top, the two main parties are flirting with first-time voters and making an effort to cater to a younger crowd.

Giving 16- and 17-year-olds the right to vote is helping to maintain the balance between the generations but the core of the messages from the parties focuses more on middle aged and elderly voters, he said.

Lowering the voting age came about as a political compromise between the Social Democrats and the People's Party, who wanted to give citizens living in the country the option to vote by absentee ballot. In the end, both became law. AP, Vienna



SHINING IN ADVERSITY

In the face of terror, young India remains unfazed

● Pranav Pratyush Das
New Delhi, September 25

LOOKING BACK at the serial blasts that shook the Capital just 12 days ago, snuffing out 24 lives in a matter of minutes, 16-year-old Sahil Vashishtha recalls how he was safely ensconced in his room at that dreaded moment, and how he caught up with it by while watching TV.

While it is evident that the class XI student of Arwachin Bharati Bhavan, Vivek Vihar, was affected by the turn of events, does it mean that the computer buff, avid swimmer and reader of fiction, would make any allowance to terror?

Banish the thought. "Everyday is a new day; we should be optimistic and look forward," says Vashishtha, articulating the views of millions of youngsters like him.

Without turning a blind eye to the 17 bombings and 632 deaths that have occurred across the country since 2005, young India clearly refuses to blink, even when the ugly face of terror stares them straight in the eye.



Delhiites participate in a candle light vigil after the bomb blasts, and (above right) students during a prayer ceremony in Ahmedabad

"It feels very sad when such an incident takes place... but life goes on. I am not afraid of public places or to my school because I have become more alert," said Prateek



Ekta Joshi and Sahil Vashishtha



Mahajan, a class XII student at the Little Flower Public School, Shahadra. Displaying maturity and an awareness far beyond his age, 16-year-old readily shares ideas on how the nation can counter the hydra-headed terror monster.

"First, we should have a federal security agency like the United

States of America has, instead of separate police forces for different states. A unified security force against terrorism is a must for a big and diverse nation like ours. Secondly, there should be mass awareness campaigns in each city. Every individual should be alert and should know how to identify suspicious objects and persons," he added.

"I am not afraid at all. On the contrary, I have become more alert and cautious. We should all act as responsible citizens and help the society get rid of this century's greatest evil, called terrorism," says Vaishnavi Singh, a class XI student of the Holy Cross School in Najafgarh.

Squarely blaming the events of Black Saturday, as September 13 has been described in the media, on "an absolute intelligence failure," Ekta Joshi, a Class XII student of the DAV Public School, Vasant Kunj, believes that the blasts would not have taken place if the authorities had been proactive.

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POLLUTION WATCH

Nation may soon be third largest CO2 emitter

● Asian News International
Washington, September 25

NEW ESTIMATES have suggested that India is poised to become the third largest emitter of carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions this year.

These are the findings of an analysis completed by the Department of Energy's Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) in the US. Despite widespread concern about climate change, annual carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels and manufacturing cement have grown 38 per cent since 1992, from 6.1 billion tons

of carbon to 8.5 billion tons in 2007.

At the same time, the source of emissions has shifted dramatically as energy use has been growing slowly in many developed countries but more quickly in some developing countries, most notably in rapidly developing Asian countries such as China and India.

"The United States was the largest emitter of CO2 in 1992, followed in order by China, Russia, Japan and India," said Gregg Marland of ORNL's Environmental Sciences Division.

"The most recent estimates suggest that India passed Japan in 2002, China became the largest emitter in 2006, and India is

poised to pass Russia to become the third largest emitter, probably this year," he added.

The new estimates of CO2 emissions are based on energy data through 2005 from the United Nations, cement data through 2005 from the US Geological Survey, energy data for 2006 and 2007 from BP, and extrapolations by Marland, Gregg and co-authors Tom Boden and Bob Andres of ORNL.

Burning fossil fuels and manufacturing cement, along with deforestation, are the most important human-related sources of carbon dioxide emissions to the atmosphere, according to the researchers.



ABHIMANYU SINHA