

Contact tracing, key to reining in Covid virus, falls flat in West

The West's public health systems have not matched the success in parts of eastern Asia where the fear of epidemics became more ingrained after SARS and MERS

THE NEW YORK TIMES
London, October 4

AS THE CORONAVIRUS stamped across Europe and the United States this spring, governments made their depleted citizens a tantalising promise: Soon, legions of disease detectives would hunt down anyone exposed to the virus, confining them to their homes and letting everyone else get on with their lives.

Nearly eight months on, as a web of new infections spreads across Europe and the US, that promise has nearly evaporated.

Despite repeated vows by the Western nations to develop "world beating" testing and tracing operations, those systems have been undone by a failure of governments to support citizens through onerous quarantines or to draw out intimate details of their whereabouts. That has shattered the hope of pinpoint measures replacing lockdowns and undermined flagging confidence in governments.

Beholden to privacy rules, Western officials largely trusted people to hand over names to contact tracers. But that trust was not repaid, in large part because governments neglected services that were crucial to winning people's cooperation: a fast and accurate testing system, and guarantees that people would be housed, fed and paid while they isolated.

Public health leaders fell in love with the idea of contact tracing as an important tactic — and it is — but that the likelihood of getting into war and were just talking about the tanks," said Brian Castucci, president of the de Beaumont Foundation, a public health charity in Maryland.

Just as important, officials overlooked the impact of raging mistrust in government and a thicket of conspiracy theories about the virus's spread. Fearful of plunging themselves or their friends into a painful period of work, infected patients have handed over a paltry number of contacts and often flouted self-isolation rules. The contact tracers are struggling to reach people who test positive, and being rebuffed once they do.

In theory, countries were to build mass testing programs that would provide quick diagnoses. Then a group of tracers would find



TRACING THE VIRUS

■ In Spain, contact tracers identify, on average, only three contacts for each known case

■ In New York City, each infected person hands over an average of 1.1 other names

■ In England, people are neither handing over many contacts — about five, on average — nor following the rules

■ However, in Taiwan, an infected person names more than 15 contacts on average, and tracers often interview patients in person

others who had crossed paths with the infected person and tell them to stay home. Elected officials presented the system as a critical bridge between lockdown and a vaccine, allowing them to contain small outbreaks without shutting down large parts of society. But construction of that bridge has been rocky, at best.

The West's public health systems have not matched the success in parts of East Asia where the fear of epidemics became more ingrained after SARS and MERS. Following those outbreaks, places like Taiwan and South Korea built robust tracing systems and legal frameworks for limiting civil liberties during an epidemic. Some contact tracers have used cellphone and credit card data to identify people who were potentially exposed. But in Europe and the US, which have largely relied on the public to provide information and follow quarantine rules voluntarily. The response has been spotty.

The West also ran up against the blunt fact that contact tracing, while useful in containing limited cases, has become overwhelmed by a new explosion of infections. In the past week, Europe has averaged about 60,000 new daily cases, while the US is registering more than 40,000.

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taining limited cases, has become overwhelmed by a new explosion of infections. In the past week, Europe has averaged about 60,000 new daily cases, while the US is registering more than 40,000.

In Taiwan, an infected person names more than 15 contacts on average, and tracers often interview patients in person, trying to extract details about secret jobs or marital affairs. But the picture in Europe is far different, and the low level of cooperation has started public health experts.

In Spain, where hospitals are struggling with a new rush of cases, contact tracers identify, on average, only three contacts for each known case. In New York City, each infected person hands over an average of 1.1 other names.

In England, people are neither handing over many contacts — about five, on average — nor following the rules. In a survey of about 32,000 Britons, less than one in five who reported coronavirus symptoms said they had stayed home.

Crucially, many Western governments have failed to cushion the financial and psychological blow of self-isolation by guaranteeing people tests or giving them enough money to weather two weeks without work. People self-isolating and unable to work in England were eligible for just 13 pounds, or \$16.70, per day, until the government increased the payments this past week.

With tests lagging in many countries, contact tracers cannot get ahead of the virus. In Paris, people wait up to a week to get testing appointments and results. England recently recorded a backlog of nearly 200,000 untested lab samples, making it impossible to track the virus through newly re-opened schools.



EXTRACT OF UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

(₹ in Crore except as stated)

S. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended 30.06.2020 (Unaudited)	Quarter ended 30.06.2019 (Unaudited)
1	Revenue from operations	15,687	21,167
2	Net Profit for the period (before exceptional items, taxes, non-controlling interests and share in jointly controlled entities and associates)	2,033	2,082
3	Net Profit for the period after exceptional items (before taxes, non-controlling interests and share in jointly controlled entities and associates)	2,033	2,082
4	Net Profit after taxes, non-controlling interests and share in jointly controlled entities and associates	1,033	1,351
5	Total Comprehensive Income after non-controlling interests (Comprising Profit (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	1,097	1,355
6	Paid-up equity share capital (Face value of ₹ 1 each)	372	372
7	Earnings per share after exceptional items (₹) (not annualised)		
	Basic	2.79	3.65
	Diluted	2.77	3.63

*Reserves excluding Revaluation Reserves as at March 31, 2020 was ₹ 54,263 Crore

Notes

1 Additional information on standalone financial results is as follows:

(₹ in Crore)

S. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended 30.06.2020 (Unaudited)	Quarter ended 30.06.2019 (Unaudited)
a	Revenue from operations	6,689	8,522
b	Profit before tax	4,534	(493)
c	Profit after tax	2,964	(250)

2 The above results of Vedanta Limited for the quarter ended June 30, 2020 have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on October 03, 2020. The statutory auditors have carried out a limited review of the same.

3 The above is an extract of the detailed format of the standalone and consolidated financial results for the quarter ended June 30, 2020 filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on the Exchange websites, www.nseindia.com, www.bseindia.com and on the Company's website www.vedantalimited.com.

Dated: October 03, 2020
Place: Mumbai

By Order of the Board

Navin Agarwal
Executive Vice-Chairman

GR Arun Kumar
Whole-Time Director and
Chief Financial Officer



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Keeping the system going in face of odds

With the world in the midst of an unprecedented crisis, the World Teachers' Day discussions this year will acknowledge the timely responses of teachers to mitigate the pandemic-induced problems faced by students, focussing on their vital role in building resilience and shaping the future of the education sector as a whole

TEACHERS across the world have always been considered architects of our society. They are the pillars on which the foundations of a modern society rest. Every human being often reflects on the learnings that he has received from his elders — parents, family members and teachers. Generally, we spend almost 20-25 years of our lives, since the beginning of our lifespan, surrounded by our teachers in school, college and university.

Celebrated annually on October 5, the World Teachers' Day (WTD) commemorates the anniversary of the adoption of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the "Status of Teachers". As per UNESCO "This Recommendation sets benchmarks regarding the rights and responsibilities of teachers and standards for their initial preparation and further education, recruitment, employment, and teaching and learning conditions. The Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel was adopted in 1997 to complement the 1966 Recommendation by covering teaching and research personnel in higher education."

With the adoption of the "Sustainable Development Goal 4 on education", and the dedicated target (SDG 4.c) recognising teachers as key to the achievement of the Education 2030 agenda, WTD has, over the years, become an occasion to mark progress and reflect on ways to counter the remaining challenges for the promotion of the teaching profession. This year's WTD theme is "Teachers: Leading in crisis, reimagining the future". Across the globe, the already over-extended education systems have faced tremendous challenges since the advent of COVID-19. It is no exaggeration to say that the world is "at a crossroads and, now more than ever, we

must work with teachers to protect the right to education and guide it into the unfolding landscape brought about by the pandemic." Former Indian President A. P. J. Abdul Kalam once said, "Teaching is a very noble profession that shapes the character, calibre, and future of an individual. If the people remember me as a good teacher, that will be the biggest honour for me." Thus, it becomes clear that being a good teacher is no easy job and comes with a lot of ups and downs in a country like ours.

Throughout their teaching career, teachers dedicate their time and energy in shaping the lives of millions of students throughout the globe. It is through their valuable contribution, guidance and encouragement that we are able to excel in our life and chosen field of work. In today's new world order, with COVID-19-induced changes in the Education sector, teachers are putting their best foot forward to ensure that though education has been disrupted, learning should continue as usual. To ensure that teachers continue to impart education to millions across the country, educational institutions have come up with innovative solutions that acquire the lives of millions in new ways of delivering education online.

To make online education delivery a seamless experience for teachers as well as students, many courses are being conducted through video conferencing, equipping teachers with the knowhow of imparting digital education. Universities are advising teachers to use Google Classroom User Guide and Hangouts Tutorial to understand how to use these Apps for conducting online classes. In such a set-up, a trainer handles a group of teachers and makes them acquainted with online teaching requirements.



Teachers are also being imparted necessary IT training skills to learn to handle support files, video tutorials and other resources. It is for the first time in India that digital training of teachers is being conducted on such a massive scale. In such a scenario, it's heart-warming to see our teachers doing every bit possible to make themselves familiar with emerging technologies and ensure that students continue without glitches. They have been dedicating countless hours even of their personal time to resolve the doubts of their students.

Happy Teachers Day
Though you wrote in Black & White, You brought colour in our life

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There's no doubt then that the timely crisis responses of teachers across the globe are playing a vital role to ensure that every child is nurtured through education amidst the prevailing odds. Certainly, our teachers have risen to the occasion and have contributed significantly to providing remote learning, supporting vulnerable populations, reopening schools, and ensuring that learning gaps are mitigated at all levels. Thus, it becomes essential in today's changed scenario that teachers are given every

type of training and access to digital teaching methodologies to ensure that they can contribute effectively to the growth of our society and continuance of learning in today's times.

In view of the current crisis, this year's WTD celebrations will take place online. There will be a series of national, regional and global events throughout the week-long celebrations, starting with The World Teachers' Day Opening Ceremony and UNESCO-Hamdan Prize Awards Ceremony today, and ending with the Closing Ceremony on October 12.

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वृक्षांतीच्या वर्षपूर्तीनिमित्त कार्यक्रम, आंदोलक एकर

म. टा. विशेष प्रतिनिधी, मुंबई

आरेमधील शूटिंग क्लबच्या वृक्षांची नवजात वृक्षांना तोंड देण्याची वेळ आली आहे. आरेमधील वृक्षांची नवजात वृक्षांना तोंड देण्याची वेळ आली आहे. आरेमधील वृक्षांची नवजात वृक्षांना तोंड देण्याची वेळ आली आहे.

आरेमधील वृक्षांची नवजात वृक्षांना तोंड देण्याची वेळ आली आहे. आरेमधील वृक्षांची नवजात वृक्षांना तोंड देण्याची वेळ आली आहे.

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पनवेलच्या शाळांमध्ये नियमांची पायमल्ली

म. टा. प्रतिनिधी, मुंबई

पनवेलमधील शाळांमध्ये नियमांची पायमल्ली होत आहे. शाळांमध्ये नियमांची पायमल्ली होत आहे. शाळांमध्ये नियमांची पायमल्ली होत आहे.

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‘गुने मागे घेण्याची प्रक्रिया लवकर पूर्ण व्हावी’

या ब्यारंकरमध्ये आंदोलनदरम्यान अटक झालेले आणि गुने मागे घेण्याची प्रक्रिया लवकर पूर्ण व्हावी. या ब्यारंकरमध्ये आंदोलनदरम्यान अटक झालेले आणि गुने मागे घेण्याची प्रक्रिया लवकर पूर्ण व्हावी.

आयसीटीत अद्ययावत प्रयोगशाळा

म. टा. विशेष प्रतिनिधी, मुंबई

मदगा येथील इन्स्टिट्यूट ऑफ केमिकल टेक्नॉलॉजी (आयसीटी) येथील केमिकल इंजीनियरिंग विभागातील शंकर गावकवार यांनी आयसीटीत अद्ययावत प्रयोगशाळा उघडण्याची प्रक्रिया सुरू केली आहे.



प्रयोगशाळेचे अंमलबजावणी सुरू करताना प्रा. एम. एम. शर्मा.

माजी विद्यार्थ्यांमधून संस्थेचे ऋण फेडण्याचा प्रयत्न

इशारा असणार. संस्थेची माहिती सादर करणयाचे आदेश. माजी विद्यार्थ्यांमधून संस्थेचे ऋण फेडण्याचा प्रयत्न होत आहे.

आरे, असेही ते म्हणले. केमिकल इंजिनियरिंगचे प्राध्यापक व विद्यार्थ्यांमधून संस्थेचे ऋण फेडण्याचा प्रयत्न होत आहे.

उलगडणार भारतीय खगोलशास्त्राचे पल्लू

मुंबई : भारत खगोलशास्त्रातील विशेष परंपरा आहे. ही परंपरा नेमाची काय आहे? विविध कालखंडातील खगोलशास्त्राचे संदर्भ नेमाचे कसे आहेत ते काय सांगतात? भारतातील विविध समाजांमध्ये खगोलशास्त्राचे अर्थ आणि काय वंश वंश वेगवेगळे सात भागांची विविध संस्कृती आणि जागतिक पातळीवर प्रसिद्ध होऊन आहे. आंतराष्ट्रीय पातळीवर हवामान आणि विज्ञान विषयक weather.com या वेबसाइटवर भारतीय खगोलशास्त्राचा लेखात्मिक काल, असेही भारतीय खगोलशास्त्राचे भारतीय अर्थशास्त्रातील सौम्यतेकडे केंद्रीत होते. यानुसार देशात मूलभूत विज्ञान संशोधनाची माहिती प्राप्त झाली आहे आणि ती माहिती प्रसिद्ध झाली आहे. या लेखात्मिक पुराण काल ते आतापर्यंतचे पुरे उन्हाळी साहित्य तयार आहे.

‘यूपीएससी’ला कोरोनाचा फटका

म. टा. विशेष प्रतिनिधी, मुंबई

केन्द्रीय लोकरक्षेत्राच्या आयोगाकडून (यूपीएससी) देशभरात आयोजित करण्यात आलेले पुरवठाकरी यंत्रणा मध्ये मुंबई व पुणे परिसरात सुट्टीला पर पडली. मात्र कोरोनाचा प्राच्यमधील मुंबईतील अनेक परीक्षा केंद्रावर बसलेल्या परीक्षार्थींना परीक्षा संपादित करणे अशक्य ठरले आहे.

मुंबईतील शीव येथे असलेल्या ही.एस. हासकुलमध्ये एक परीक्षा केंद्र ठरवून असे होते. सध्या प्रत्येक महिन्याचे २४ परीक्षार्थींनी शीव येथे परीक्षा घ्यावी होती. मात्र अनेक यंत्रणा अद्ययावत अर्थिक विद्यार्थी गैरहजर होते. दादर येथे राजा शिवाजी हायस्कूलमध्ये सकाळी परीक्षा घेण्यात येत आहे.

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शिक्षण शुल्काची माहिती सादर करणयाचे आदेश

म. टा. विशेष प्रतिनिधी, मुंबई

राज्यात असलेल्या सर्व उच्चशालिका उच्चशालिका शालेय संस्थेचे अनुदानात असलेल्या संस्थांची वृत्ती, इंधनी व मागवण्यात विद्यार्थ्यांकडून शुल्काची माहिती सादर करणयाचे आदेश देण्यात आले. यानुसार शाळांनी शिक्षण शुल्काची माहिती सादर करणयाचे आदेश देण्यात आले. यानुसार शाळांनी शिक्षण शुल्काची माहिती सादर करणयाचे आदेश देण्यात आले.



प्रतिक्रिया देण्यात येत आहे.

शिक्षण शुल्काची माहिती सादर करणयाचे आदेश

म. टा. विशेष प्रतिनिधी, मुंबई

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दरमिती येतात. परंतु, त्या विलंबांना नेमाची कितती शुल्क लागू आहे. यादरमिती माहिती अधिकारकर्त्यांनी उच्चशालिका शाळांनी तयार करावी. यादरमिती माहिती सादर करणयाचे आदेश देण्यात आले. यानुसार शाळांनी शिक्षण शुल्काची माहिती सादर करणयाचे आदेश देण्यात आले.

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EXTRACT OF UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

(₹ in Crore except as stated)

S. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended 30.06.2020 (Unaudited)	Quarter ended 30.06.2019 (Unaudited)
1	Revenue from operations	15,687	21,167
2	Net Profit for the period (before exceptional items, taxes, non-controlling interests and share in jointly controlled entities and associates)	2,033	2,082
3	Net Profit for the period after exceptional items (before taxes, non-controlling interests and share in jointly controlled entities and associates)	2,033	2,082
4	Net Profit after taxes, non-controlling interests and share in jointly controlled entities and associates	1,033	1,351
5	Total Comprehensive Income after non-controlling interests (Comprising Profit (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax))	1,097	1,355
6	Paid-up equity share capital (Face value of ₹ 1 each)	372	372
7	Earnings per share after exceptional items (₹) (not annualised)		
	Basic	2.79	3.65
	Diluted	2.77	3.63

*Reserves excluding Revaluation Reserves as at March 31, 2020 was ₹ 54,263 Crore

Notes:

- Additional information on standalone financial results is as follows:

S. No.	Particulars	Quarter ended 30.06.2020 (Unaudited)	Quarter ended 30.06.2019 (Unaudited)
a	Revenue from operations	6,689	8,522
b	Profit before tax	4,534	(493)
c	Profit after tax	2,964	(250)
- The above results of Vedanta Limited for the quarter ended June 30, 2020 have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and approved by the Board of Directors at their respective meetings held on October 03, 2020. The statutory auditors have carried out a limited review of the same.
- The above is an extract of the detailed format of the standalone and consolidated financial results for the quarter ended June 30, 2020 filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Financial Results are available on the Exchange websites: www.sebindia.com, www.bseindia.com and on the Company's website www.vedantalimited.com.

By Order of the Board

Navin Agarwal Executive Vice-Chairman

GR Arun Kumar Whole-Time Director and Chief Financial Officer

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