

THE STUDENT CHRONICLE

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Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, a new problem has been placed in front of us- The bird flu Outbreak. Mysteriously, many birds have been found dead all across India. States namely- Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Gujrat, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan have reported confirmed cases of the Avian Flu virus, popularly known as the Bird Flu. The Bird Flu Virus was first detected in geese in China. Rajasthan was the first state to have reported confirmed cases of the Bird flu virus, where hundreds of crows had been found dead.

Over the past few days, 12,000 birds have died in Kerala due to which 36,000 more birds have been culled to control the spread of the Avian virus as a result of which, Karnataka has stopped the transport of poultry and birds from Kerala. The Kerala State Government has also decided to compensate the farmers who have been affected by the Bird Flu. In Himachal Pradesh, more than 2,400 migratory birds were found dead. The Kangra District administration of Himachal Pradesh has now banned the sale of poultry items. And in Haryana, in a span of only 10 days, 4 lakh birds have died.

The Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister has also convened an emergency meeting over the Bird Flu outbreak. Even though Delhi has not been affected by the Bird flu yet, the Delhi Chief Minister, Arvind Kejriwal has said that there will be a ban on the import of all live birds into Delhi, and as a preventive measure, 104 bird samples have been sent to the Jalandhar Lab for testing. In addition, Delhi's Ghazipur Poultry market has also been shut for 10 days. The Ministry of Environment has asked the affected states to report any cases of Wildlife Mortality to the Ministry.

BIRD FLU OUTBREAK

Headlines

By:

Sara Jain

VIII - F

2021 may prove to be another successful year for investors in cryptocurrency, our star performer being bitcoin. This renewed buying interest in cryptocurrencies has become a global phenomenon.

For those of you who don't know what cryptocurrency is, here is a little primer – cryptocurrency is a virtual currency used to buy goods secured by cryptography. Most cryptocurrencies are based on blockchain technology that conducts secure transactional records.

Back in 2010, a single bitcoin was worth \$0.0008 and as of today, bitcoin is enjoying its lifetime high of \$41,530. This means an investment of just \$100 eleven years ago would now roughly equate to a whopping \$5 billion. It's hard to imagine any financial stake giving this kind of return. Bitcoin has risen by 1000% since March 2020 and other popular cryptocurrency companies like Ethereum and Litecoin are also seeing a significant rise in their values recently.

According to CoinMarketCap, a cryptocurrency-centered organization, the total market capitalization of cryptocurrencies is now valued at \$1.042 trillion as of January 7th, 2021. A strategist from JPMorgan states that bitcoin is surfacing as a competitor to gold and has the potential to trade up to \$146,000. The rate at which bitcoin is growing and progressing is astounding. Two major online financial transaction companies, Paypal and Square, now allow users to buy and sell bitcoins on their platform.

Numerous banks are looking into the likelihood of using cryptocurrency as well. However, the reluctance shown by many others is only natural; cryptocurrency is yet to be legalized in many countries. Will bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies continue their meteoric rise through 2021 and beyond? Only time will tell.



TECHNOLOGY

Cryptocurrency to Take the Reins in the Financial World?

By: Lasya Srinidhi
VIII - C



INTERNATIONAL

Tigray's Bombing of Eritrea's Capital Asmara, Tensions Rising in the Horn of Africa

By: Ayesha Hasnain
X-H

Tensions have been rising in the Horn of Africa due to the ongoing conflict between Ethiopia, the largest and most populous country of the Horn, and Tigray, the northernmost region of Ethiopia. Ethiopia's influence on the rest of Northern Africa is substantial, due to its flourishing economy and population of 110 million.

Ethiopia has a history of hostility with the ruling body of Tigray, the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), and this has escalated into a conflict that now requires the involvement of other African countries. Ethiopia's efforts to persuade the global organizations that the matter is internal has failed with the involvement of Sudan and Eritrea.

Representatives of Eritrea and Ethiopia, President Isaias Afwerki and Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, are close allies. Eritrea denies involvement, despite lending 600 soldiers to aid Ethiopia. The President of Tigray, Debretsion Gebremichael, confirmed that his forces launched attacks on Eritrea's airport. Gebremichael claims that the attack was due to Ethiopian forces using the Eritrean airport to launch attacks on Tigray.

Residents of Asmara claim to have heard the rockets near the airport. The Tigray forces are fighting off 16 divisions of the Eritrean army, as claimed by Gebremichael. With Ethiopia shelling Tigray, 17,000 have been displaced and thousands of refugees are fleeing to Sudan. About 600,000 are dependent on food and aid. As the International Crisis Group says, "This will be devastating, not just for the country, but for the entire Horn of Africa."



2020 Rewind

It's a new year it's finally 2021

2020's finally over now its the time for the fun

We overcame and finally made it through the covid storm

but we also now know that this might not be covid's last

But now is the time to celebrate and make resolutions

and not the time to mourn the sorrowful past

But Covid's still here and won't go too fast

We still need to be very careful and cautious

As this deadly virus still hasn't left us

But a new vaccine is out and the virus might finally leave us

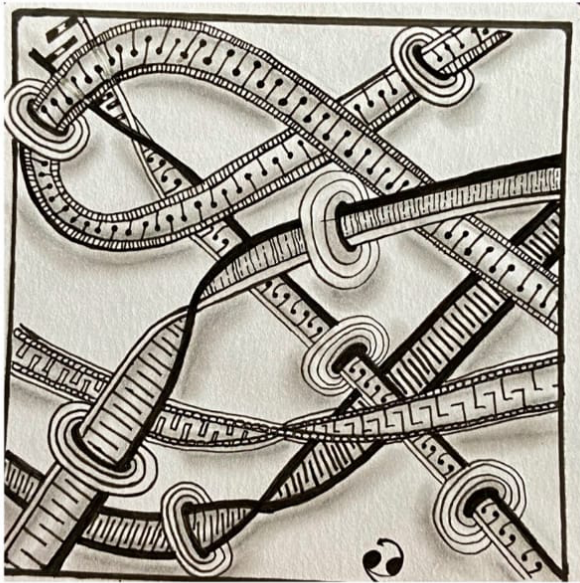
But until then its the government that we have to trust

We must make this year better than our last

And consider that as our top resolution

Because if we don't, we might not have any other solution





PIC-COLLAGE

Are you interested in writing for the newspaper? Then partake in our "Question of the week"! The 5 most original and creative works will be featured in our upcoming paper! Get writing!

(P.S- Keep in mind the word limit of 100 words)

The school newspaper email address is:

the.student.chronicle.dips@gmail.com

Looking forward to reading your articles!

Editorial Team

Adithi S, X B (Editor-in-chief)

Anvesha Nayak, XII A

Omisha Singh, XII B

Mirzab Nissamudeen, X I

Shreya Padaki, XI C

Graphics By: Avaneesh Kumar, X E