

# THE YOUTH VOICE

NEWS FOR THE YOUTH BY THE YOUTH



The Youth Voice is a monthly newsletter designed for middle and high school students.

Created by a group of enthusiastic school students with a mission to make the world a peaceful and informed place

## WHAT'S MAKING NEWS?



### Sunita Williams Back After 286 Days in Space

Houston, TX – NASA astronaut Sunita Williams returned to Earth March 18, 2025, after 286 days on the ISS. Launched June 5, 2024, on Boeing's Starliner with Butch Wilmore for an 8-day test, their stay stretched due to technical issues. They splashed down via SpaceX's Crew-9 off Florida. Williams, ISS commander until March 2025, logged 608 days in space across three missions and holds the female record for 62 hours of spacewalks. Now in Houston, she's readjusting to gravity.

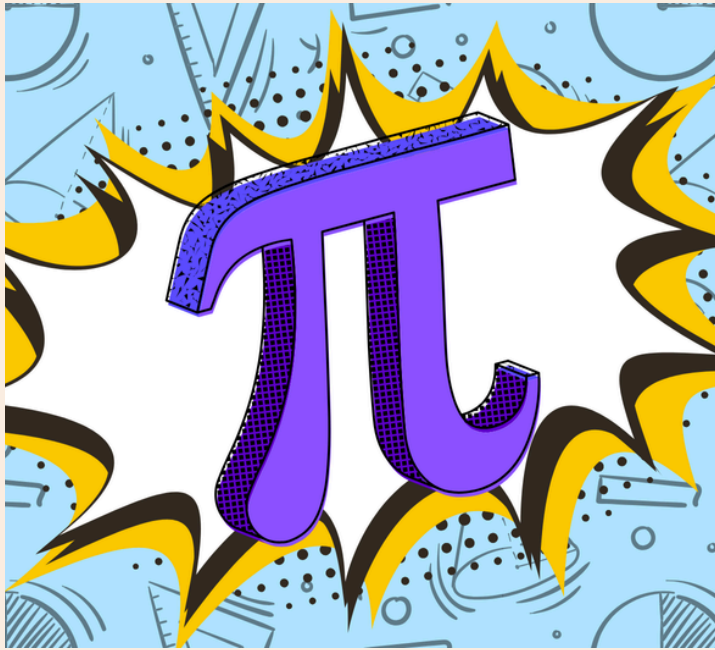


### Indian Submersible undergoes testing

India's pioneering deep-sea submersible, Matsya-6000, successfully completed wet testing in February 2025 off Chennai's coast. Designed to dive 6,000 meters, this titanium-hulled marvel from the National Institute of Ocean Technology aims to explore the Indian Ocean's depths by 2026. With shallow-water trials up to 500 meters slated for late 2025, the Samudrayaan Mission is set to unlock ocean secrets, from rare minerals to mysterious sea life, marking a bold leap in India's underwater exploration

# PI: A COOL NUMBER

Written by Author: Ayaan Jain



Many of us might have thought that pi( $\pi$ ) is just any number with value  $22/7$  which is used for calculating the circumference and area of circles. But if you are one of those who have thought this, then I am very sorry to say that you are wrong .

Pi is irrational, meaning no fraction can pin it down. So,  $22/7$  is just a buddy, not the full Pi. Mathematicians began using the Greek letter  $\pi$  in the 1700s. Introduced by William Jones in 1706, use of the symbol was popularised by Leonhard Euler, who adopted it in 1737. Pi ( $\pi$ ) has been known for almost 4000 years—but even if we calculated the number of seconds in those 4000 years and calculated  $\pi$  to that number of decimal places, we would still only be approximating its actual value. Here's a brief history of finding  $\pi$ .

Why's Pi cool? It's not just for circles—it's in waves, gravity, even clocks swinging! Picture the Earth's roundness (about 12,742 km across): Pi says 40,030 km around  $22/7$  says 40,050 km. A 20 km miss! Plus, Pi's digits are wild—endless and random. It's also too tricky for simple math puzzles.

Its story? Way back, Babylonians (2000 BCE) guessed Pi as 3.125. Egyptians said 3.16. Then, around 250 BCE, a Greek philosopher , Archimedes, got super close— between 3.1408 and 3.1429—using shapes. India's Aryabhata nailed it better in the 400s. Fast forward, Newton and computers pushed it further. Now, we party on Pi Day (March 14)!

Let's talk about Archimedes, who has said to have approximated the value of pi the most . Archimedes approximated the area of a circle by using the Pythagorean Theorem to find the areas of two regular polygons: the polygon inscribed within the circle and the polygon within which the circle was circumscribed. Since the actual area of the circle lies between the areas of the inscribed and circumscribed polygons, the areas of the polygons gave upper and lower bounds for the area of the circle. Archimedes knew that he had not found the value of  $\pi$  but only an approximation within those limits. In this way, Archimedes showed that  $\pi$  is between  $3 \frac{1}{7}$  and  $3 \frac{10}{71}$ .

So, Pi's not just  $22/7$ —it's a never-ending, with a long, human chase behind it. What do you think of that?

# THE PINK TAX: THE PRICE OF BEING A WOMAN

Written by Author: Kashvi Wadhwa



When it comes to personal care, clothing, or even kids' toys, there's a clear pattern: women often find themselves paying more for products that are basically the same as those marketed to men. This isn't just a coincidence; it's part of a larger issue known as the Pink Tax. Take, for example, a blue backpack that costs ₹1,000. Now, if it's pink, the price jumps to ₹1,200. The only real differences? Just the color and the fact that it's aimed at women. This kind of gender pricing isn't limited to bags; it's everywhere and can add up to a major extra cost over a woman's lifetime.

One major reason behind the Pink Tax is the societal pressures we face—the unspoken rules about how men and women should look. From a young age, girls are led to believe that their appearance is more important than boys'. This results in a higher demand for beauty, self-care, and hygiene products, which companies take advantage of by raising their prices. Girls often get toy beauty kits, while boys receive tool sets. As they grow older, women are subtly taught to focus more on their looks, whereas men are conditioned to value their skills. This difference doesn't just shape their confidence; it also influences their shopping habits

There's this idea that women should always appear effortlessly put together. But let's be honest: that "effortless" look doesn't just happen; it's part of a multi-billion dollar industry. Women constantly see products claiming to give them youthful skin, sleek hair, and that "perfect" look—all at a premium. Makeup and skincare products are no longer seen as optional, they've become essentials for being taken seriously.

A guy can stick to one cologne for years, but women are expected to have a range of perfumes for every mood, occasion, and season. And when it comes to hair, there's this underlying pressure for women to straighten or style their natural texture, leading to costly treatments, styling products, and frequent salon visits. Even basic hygiene products aren't immune to this gender pricing. Need a razor? The pink one will set you back more. How about deodorant? The flowery scent somehow costs extra. And the most frustrating example? Menstrual products. This isn't just about a few more rupees on a bottle of shampoo or a razor.

The Pink Tax represents a world where women are expected to spend money on their appearance to gain acceptance, respect, or even simply to be taken seriously.

Ultimately, it's a harsh reminder that in our society, beauty comes with a price—literally

# LET'S TALK MONEY : KEY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN STOCKS AND BONDS

Written by Author: VEDIKA JAIN

Ever eavesdropped on a conversation between adults talking about "the market," "portfolio," or "yield"? It can sound like they're speaking a secret language! But don't worry, it's not a secret code. They're talking about stocks and bonds, and we're about to become fluent in this language!

## What are Stocks?

Stocks in layman language means owning a piece of the company. Once we buy a stock we are owning a fraction of the company. The Stock is traded on the stock exchange, the price varies as per the conditions of the market.

Stocks are inherently growth-oriented investments, with returns derived from capital appreciation (the increase in stock price over time) and, in some cases, dividends. Stocks tend to offer higher long-term returns compared to other asset classes, but this potential comes with significant risk. Stock prices are highly volatile and influenced by factors such as company performance, market sentiment, and economic conditions. As a result, investors in stocks must be prepared for substantial price fluctuations and the possibility of losing a portion or even all of their investment.

The price of the stocks keeps on fluctuating depending upon the market conditions.

**Capital Appreciation**- If the price of the stocks bought by investors gradually increases over the time, it leads to high capital gains.

**Risk**- Stocks are risky, when the price of stocks increase it leads to gains but can cause losses of large amounts of money if the market is unstable.

**Liquidity**- We are easily able to sell off the shares.

**Market Price**- Stocks have a market price that keeps on fluctuating depending upon the condition of the market. It also depends upon the company's performance and broader market trends.

## What are Bonds?

Bonds are any type of debt security. It is like lending money to a company against a fixed return. The Bonds have a fixed maturity period and the company has to return the principal after the maturity.

When you buy a bond, you are essentially lending money to an entity in exchange for regular interest payments (known as coupons) and the return of the principal amount at a specified maturity date. Unlike stocks, bonds do not confer ownership in a company. Instead, bondholders are creditors, with a higher claim on the issuer's assets in the event of bankruptcy, making bonds generally less risky than stocks. Bonds are ideal for income-focused investors seeking stable, predictable returns. However, they typically offer lower returns compared to stocks, reflecting their reduced risk. Bond prices are influenced by factors such as interest rates, credit ratings, and inflation. For instance, when interest rates rise, existing bond prices tend to fall, as newer bonds may offer higher yields.

**Price**- The price fluctuates but it is not very volatile. Overall, it is comparatively stable compared to stocks. .

**Risk**- The bondholder is at various risks including default of payment in case of liquidation, inflation risk and low interest rate risk.

A wise choice would be to allocate funds in both instruments. In short, stocks are about owning a piece of a company and taking on higher risk for the potential of higher returns, while bonds involve lending money with a promise of fixed returns and lower risk but also lower potential for high rewards.

Feature	Stocks	Bonds
Ownership	Ownership in a company	Creditor to the issuer
Risk	High, variable value	Lower, fixed returns, less volatile
Returns	Capital gains and dividends	Interest (coupon payments) and principal return
Income	Dividends (if paid), capital gains	Regular interest payments
Market Behaviour	Can be volatile, influenced by company performance	Generally more stable, influenced by interest rates and credit risk

# YOUTH AGAINST INJUSTICE

Written by Author: Pranit Verma

For centuries, the world's youth has been instrumental in bringing about fundamental revolutions. The younger generations tend to have newer and fresher ideas and perspectives that can even be free from certain biases that the previous generation had. Many movements have been led by the youth that have genuinely inspired change from within, from challenging customs and norms and changing policies to reshaping societies. A great example of the efforts of young people in bringing about social change is the Soweto uprising. On the 16th of June, 1976, young people in South Africa held a powerful, yet peaceful protest against the apartheid regime's education policies. It all started with the Bantu Education Act of 1953, which aimed to provide inferior education to the ethnically black community in comparison to the white minority. It aimed to prepare the black youth for only low-paid and low-quality jobs. On top of this, in 1974, an Afrikaans medium decree was issued. According to this decree, schools were forced to teach some subjects (like math and SST) in the Afrikaans language. This didn't sit well, not only with teachers but also with students. Afrikaans was seen as the language of white oppression and the teachers and students weren't fluent in it, making it harder to teach and learn in it.



On top of this, English was seen as a more global and practical language medium to learn. Now, flashforward to June 16, 1976, thousands of students from a township near Johannesburg named Soweto launched a peaceful protest against the Afrikaans language policy. The police responded by releasing tear gas and shooting the protesters. Hector Pieterse, a 12-year-old student who was protesting was shot which resulted in his death. A famous picture of him was used by protesters and became a symbol of resistance.

Over the next few days, the protests spread throughout South Africa and hundreds were killed. This led to international outrage. After this, the apartheid regime was condemned and economic sanctions were pressed against the government with mounting diplomatic pressure. This incident also strengthened the anti-apartheid movement in South Africa. The ANC (African National Congress) gained massive support and many South Africans began to join the secret underground organizations for the freedom struggle.

In South Africa, June 16th is now celebrated as 'Youth Day'. It honours the brave students for their exceptional valour during the events of the Soweto uprising. It also portrays the strength the youth exercised in their freedom struggle, making the Soweto uprising an epitome of social change brought about by the youth of a nation.

**1. Which is the longest river in India?**

- a) Yamuna
- b) Brahmaputra
- c) Ganga
- d) Godavari

**2. Which Indian state is famous for its spices, especially cardamom and pepper?**

- a) Rajasthan
- b) Kerala
- c) Punjab
- d) Gujarat

**3. What's the name of our galaxy, the giant spinning group of stars, planets, and dust we live in?**

- a) Andromeda
- b) Milky Way
- c) Triangulum
- d) Whirlpool

**4. In which place was the Maha Kumbh mela held ?**

- a) Prayagraj
- b) Nashik
- c) Ujjain
- d) Haridwar

**PLEASE SEND YOUR CORRECT RESPONSES TO JAINVEDIKA2910@gmail.com to win free gifts**

## FUN FACTS

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The shortest river in the world is just 118 feet long! It's the D River in Oregon, USA—blink and you'd miss it!

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Butterflies taste with their feet! They have taste sensors on their legs, so when they land on a flower, they can instantly tell if it's yummy nectar or not.

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WE ARE ACTIVELY SEEKING COAUTHORS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEWSLETTER

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED PLEASE CONTACT US AT  
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