

# Robots can demoralise co-workers!

New research finds that when robots are beating humans in contests for cash prizes, people consider themselves less competent and expend slightly less effort -- and they tend to dislike the robots.

A Cornell University-led team has found that when robots are beating humans in contests for cash prizes, people consider themselves less competent and expend slightly less effort -- and they tend to dislike the robots.

The study, "Monetary-Incentive Competition Between Humans and Robots: Experimental Results," brought together behavioral economists and roboticists to explore, for the first time, how a robot's performance affects humans' behavior and reactions when they're competing against each other simultaneously.

Their findings validated behavioral economists' theories about loss aversion, which predicts that people won't try as hard when their competitors are doing better, and suggests how workplaces might optimize teams of people and robots working together.

"Humans and machines already share many workplaces, sometimes working on similar or even identical tasks," said Guy Hoffman, assistant professor in the Sibley School of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. Hoffman and Ori Heffetz, associate professor of economics in the Samuel Curtis Johnson Graduate School of Management, are senior authors of the study.

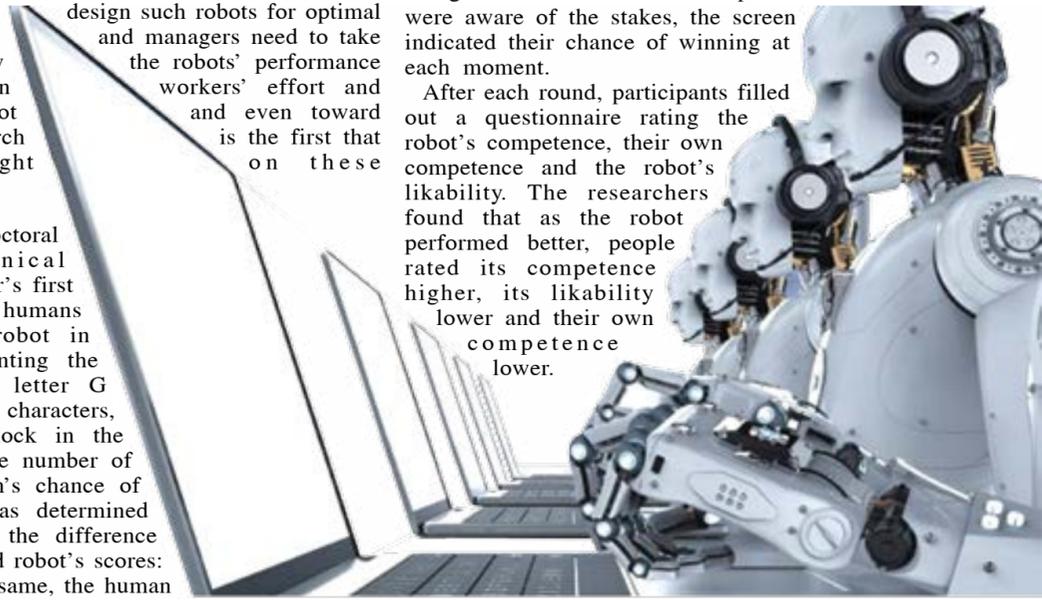
"Think about a cashier working side-by-side with an

automatic check-out machine, or someone operating a forklift in a warehouse which also employs delivery robots driving right next to them," Hoffman said. "While it may be tempting to design such robots for optimal productivity, engineers and managers need to take into consideration how the robots' performance may affect the human workers' effort and attitudes toward the robot and even toward themselves. Our research is the first that specifically sheds light on these effects."

Alap Kshirsagar, a doctoral student in mechanical engineering, is the paper's first author. In the study, humans competed against a robot in a tedious task -- counting the number of times the letter G appears in a string of characters, and then placing a block in the bin corresponding to the number of occurrences. The person's chance of winning each round was determined by a lottery based on the difference between the human's and robot's scores: If their scores were the same, the human

had a 50 percent chance of winning the prize, and that likelihood rose or fell depending which participant was doing better. To make sure competitors were aware of the stakes, the screen indicated their chance of winning at each moment.

After each round, participants filled out a questionnaire rating the robot's competence, their own competence and the robot's likability. The researchers found that as the robot performed better, people rated its competence higher, its likability lower and their own competence lower.



Soul of India

SONY MUSIC



UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP

## Facebook ties with Indian music labels

Facebook announced to partner top music labels in India that will let its nearly 300 million users in the country express themselves with music on its platform as well as Instagram.

With the partnerships with T-Series Music, Zee Music Company and Yash Raj Films, Facebook will allow the users to include their favourite music in videos, messages, posts, stories and other creative content.

"People will now be able to include music in their videos on Facebook and Instagram, opening up more options for more ways to express and sharing memories with friends and family," said Manish Chopra, Director and Head of Partnerships, Facebook India.

Facebook has partnered with the music community in more than 40 countries.

"We're introducing a new feature: from a song on your profile, we're making it

possible to tap through to Spotify so people can listen to the full song and discover more from that artist. "We'll be adding other partners in the near future as well," the company said in a blog post.

The Spotify feature, however, is yet to come to India.

According to Anand Gurnani, Vice President-Digital, Yash Raj Films, "our association with Facebook offers a chance for audiences to experiment and express themselves through music and share the same with their friends".

"We have one of the largest catalogue of songs. Today's digitally-savvy consumers are ultra-creative and it will be interesting to see how they re-purpose our music and videos to say what they want the world to hear," added Neeraj Kalyan, T-Series President and Digital head.

## Apple enables handsfree 'Hey Siri'

The new version of AirPods comes with an Apple-designed H1 chip that promises longer battery life and enables hands-free "Hey Siri".

Apple has launched the second-generation AirPods, featuring a new H1 chip and a wireless charging case. The AirPods 2 succeeds the original AirPods, which were launched in 2016. Earlier this week, Apple also unveiled new iPads as well as faster iPads. AirPods have constantly been rated as the world's most popular wireless earbuds.

The new version of AirPods now comes with a new Apple H1 chipset, designed and developed for headphones. The H1 chip allows faster connect times, up to 50 per cent more talk time compared to the original AirPods and even enables hands-free "Hey Siri" feature. Additionally, the chip allows faster switching be-

tween your iPhone and Apple Watch.

The next-generation wireless earbuds will be made available with the standard charging case or the new wireless Charging case. Both case, according to Apple, will hold up an additional charge "for 24 hours of total listening time". And yes, the wireless charging case is Qi-compatible.

In terms of pricing, the all-new AirPods with standard casing is priced at Rs 14,900. Meanwhile, AirPods with the wireless charging case will set you back by Rs 18,900. Both versions will come to India this Spring. Apple will also sell the standalone Wireless Charging Case for Rs 7,500.



## Neural network automation kicks speed

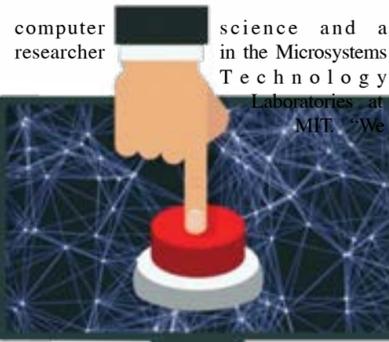
A new area in artificial intelligence involves using algorithms to automatically design machine-learning systems known as neural networks, which are more accurate and efficient than those developed by human engineers. But this so-called neural architecture search (NAS) technique is computationally expensive.

One of the state-of-the-art NAS algorithms recently developed by Google took 48,000 hours of work by a squad of graphical processing units (GPUs) to produce a single convolutional neural network, used for image classification and identification tasks. Google has the wherewithal to run hundreds of GPUs and

other specialized circuits in parallel, but that's out of reach for many others.

Resource-strapped researchers and companies could benefit from the time- and cost-saving algorithm, the researchers say.

The broad goal is "to democratize AI," says co-author Song Han, an assistant professor of electrical engineering and

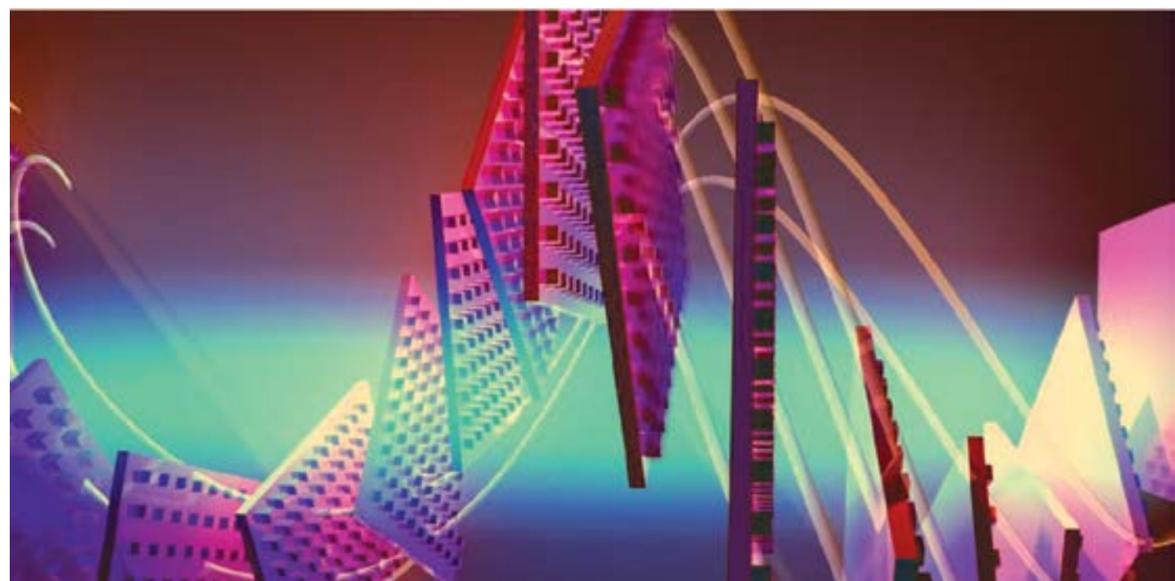


computer science and a researcher in the Microsystems Technology Laboratories at MIT. "We want to enable both experts and nonexperts to efficiently design neural network architectures with a push-button solution that runs fast on a specific hardware." In their work, the researchers developed ways to delete unnecessary neural network design components, to cut computing

times and use only a fraction of hardware memory to run a NAS algorithm. An additional innovation ensures each outputted CNN runs more efficiently on specific hardware platforms CPUs, GPUs, and mobile devices than those designed by traditional approaches. In tests, the researchers' CNNs were 1.8 times faster measured on a mobile phone than traditional gold-standard models with similar accuracy.

A CNN's architecture consists of layers of computation with adjustable parameters, called "filters," and the possible connections between those filters.

Filters process image pixels in grids of squares with each filter covering one square. The filters essentially move across the image and combine all the colors of their covered grid of pixels into a single pixel. Different layers may have different-sized filters, and connect to share data in different ways. The output is a condensed image from the combined information from all the filters that can be more easily analyzed by a computer.



## Light energy to levitate objects

Scientists have designed a way to levitate and propel objects using only light, by creating nanoscale patterns on the objects' surfaces.

Though still theoretical, the work is a step toward developing a spacecraft that could reach the nearest planet outside of our solar system in 20 years, powered and accelerated only by light.

Decades ago, the development of so-called optical tweezers enabled scientists to move and manipulate tiny objects, like nanoparticles, using the radiative pressure from a sharply focused beam of laser light.

This work formed the basis for the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physics. However, optical tweezers are only able to manipulate very small objects and only at very short distances.

"One can levitate a ping pong ball using a

steady stream of air from a hair dryer. But it wouldn't work if the ping pong ball were too big, or if it were too far away from the hair dryer, and so on," said Ognjen Ilic, a postdoctoral scholar at California Institute of Technology (Caltech) in the US.

With the new research, published in the journal Nature Photonics, objects of many different shapes and sizes — from micrometers to metres — could be manipulated with a light beam. The key is to create specific nanoscale patterns on an object's surface.

This patterning interacts with light in such a way that the object can right itself when perturbed, creating a restoring torque to keep it in the light beam. Thus, rather than requiring highly focused laser beams, the objects' patterning is designed to "encode" their own stability. The light source can also

be millions of miles away.

"We have come up with a method that could levitate macroscopic objects," said Harry Atwater, from Caltech.

"There is an audaciously interesting application to use this technique as a means for propulsion of a new generation of spacecraft. We're a long way from actually doing that, but we are in the process of testing out the principles," he said. In theory, this spacecraft could be patterned with nanoscale structures and accelerated by an Earth-based laser light. Without needing to carry fuel, the spacecraft could reach very high, even relativistic speeds and possibly travel to other stars.

Atwater also envisions that the technology could be used here on Earth to enable rapid manufacturing of ever-smaller objects, like circuit boards.



# Hydrogen fuel from sea water?

Stanford scientists have devised a way to generate hydrogen fuel from seawater using solar power, an advance that may help pave the way for a novel sustainable source of energy.

The findings, published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, demonstrate a new way of separating hydrogen and oxygen gas from salt water.

The technology could also be used for purposes beyond generating energy. Since the process also produces breathable oxygen, divers or submarines could bring devices into the ocean and generate oxygen down below without having to surface for air.

Existing water-splitting methods rely on highly purified water, which is a precious resource and costly to produce.

Theoretically, to power cities and cars, "you need so much hydrogen it is not conceivable to use purified water," said Hongjie Dai, professor at Stanford University in US.

Hydrogen is an appealing option for fuel because it does not emit carbon dioxide, Dai said. Burning hydrogen produces only water and should ease worsening climate change problems.

Researchers showed proof-of-concept with a demo, but the researchers will leave it up to manufacturers to scale and mass produce the design.

However, negatively charged chloride in seawater salt can corrode the positive end, limiting the system's lifespan.

Researchers wanted to find a way to stop those seawater components from breaking down the submerged anodes.

They discovered that if they coated the anode with layers that were rich in negative charges, the layers repelled chloride and slowed down the decay of the underlying metal.

They layered nickel-iron hydroxide on top of nickel sulphide, which covers a nickel foam core.

During electrolysis, the nickel sulphide evolves into a negatively charged layer that protects the anode.

Just as the negative ends of two magnets push against one another, the negatively charged layer repels chloride and prevents it from reaching the core metal.

Without the negatively charged coating, the anode only works for around 12 hours in seawater, said Michael Kenney, a graduate student in the Dai lab. "The whole electrode falls apart into a crumble. But with this layer, it is able to go more than a thousand hours," Kenney said.

Previous studies attempting to split seawater for hydrogen fuel had run low amounts of electric current,

because corrosion occurs at higher currents.

Researchers were able to conduct up to 10 times more electricity through their multi-layer device, which helps it generate hydrogen from seawater at a faster rate.



# Robots to build city of its own!!

Cities of the future could be built and repaired by robots and drones mimicking the tactics of nature, according to a study.

Using robots should reduce human risk, allow tasks to be completed faster and monitoring alongside construction.

The robots could collect data on everything they are doing, helping to improve their practices, according to the study published in the journal Science Robotics.

"The cities of the future could be built and maintained by groups of land-based and flying robots working together to construct, assess, and repair the urban ecosystem of buildings and infrastructure," said Mirko Kovac from Imperial College London in the UK.

"Nature provides ample proof that such collective construction is possible, and by applying some of these ideas to how drones are constructed, operated and made to cooperate, we could make this dream a reality," Kovac said in a state-

ment. The team looked at examples from nature where groups of organisms use different tactics to work together in construction.

Many animals in groups take cues from and leverage their environment when constructing or repairing their homes.

For example, termites, which live in large 'super-organism' colonies, rely on pheromones excreted during deposition of materials to coordinate construction.

Analysing these methods of coordination can help researchers design algorithms for how groups of robots and drones could autonomously work together during construction. However, the researchers are also developing drones that are based on nature, through their design and the materials they are made from. This crucial step will allow researchers to create drones that respond to the needs of a building while working alongside its human inhabitants.

Tokyo Olympic organisers rolled out a pair of chatty robots they will put to work to assist wheelchair users at the 2020 Games as they continue to plug Japan's cutting-edge technology. Toyota unveiled its human support (HSR) and delivery support robots (DSR), which are set to act as seat ushers and will fetch food and drinks for disabled fans at next year's Olympics.

In an Olympic first, the waist-high, robotic "volunteers" will breezily introduce themselves to customers, who can then place orders on a tablet.

"Hello, everyone. I'm a lifestyle support robot," the fully rotating HSR said in a demonstration. "I'll fetch things for you. I also have an extendable arm that can pick things up if you drop them," it added. In reality, the DSR "deli-bot" with its built-in drinks tray rather more closely resembles a moving dustbin with blinking lights, but Toyota insisted the technology would ensure a more comfortable Games experience for wheelchair users.

Games organisers also unveiled a Panasonic-developed exoskeleton suit to help with a range of Olympic-related chores, such as delivering or loading heavy baggage brought to Japan by athletes and officials. The last time Japan hosted the Olympics, in 1964, it launched the iconic bullet train - a sleek symbol of the country's recovery from World War II.

This time around

# 'Robot-eers' for 2020 Olympics?

there is speculation a flying car will be used to light the Olympic flame, although 2020 organisers are keen to stress the practical use of technology.



# Taxi app for deaf drivers

Seoul: SK Telecom Co. (SKT), in collaboration with Coactus Ltd., a South Korean social firm, released a "T map Taxi" application specially designed for cab drivers with hearing disabilities.

The new application notifies the driver of incoming ride requests via a blinking lamp and allows the driver to message the customer if any situations arises.

The drivers will also be provided with a button device that prevents them from being distracted by having to press the acceptance button on a phone screen while driving.

Coactus is a social firm established by a group of college students in 2017 to support people with hearing disabilities.

Those with hearing disabilities are known to suffer from the lowest employment rate among other groups of disabled

persons. Goyohan Taxi, a Coactus cab company, currently employs 12 drivers with hearing disabilities in Seoul, Namyangju, and Gyeongju. The company plans to hire as many as 100 drivers by the end of the year.

SKT and Coactus expect that the new initiative will help hearing-impaired persons to work and earn enough income.

Goyohan Taxi drivers get paid as much as 2.4 million won (US\$2,100) per month, which is twice as much as the average income among hearing-impaired persons working in similar fields.

"More than 40 percent of cab com-

panies in Seoul are having trouble finding new drivers," said Yeo Ji-young, head of the TTS (Total Transportation Service) Unit at SKT.

"We believe that hiring people with hearing disabilities can solve that."



# Selfhealing electronic skin

Scientists have created a self-healing electronic skin inspired by jellyfish, that could be used in to develop a range of devices from water-resistant touchscreens to aquatic soft robots.

"One of the challenges with many self-healing materials today is that they are not transparent and they do not work efficiently when wet," said Benjamin Tee from NUS.

"These drawbacks make them less useful for electronic applications such as touchscreens which often need to be used in wet weather conditions," Tee said.

They succeeded in this endeavour by creating a gel consisting of a fluorocarbon-based polymer with a fluorine-rich ionic liquid.

When combined, the polymer network interacts with the ionic liquid via highly reversible ion-dipole interactions, which allows it to self-heal.

"Most conductive polymer gels such as hydrogels would swell when submerged in water or dry out over time in air. What makes our material different is that it can retain its shape in both wet and dry surroundings," Tee said.

The electronic skin is created by printing the novel material into electronic circuits. As a soft and stretchable material, its electrical properties



change when being touched, pressed or strained.

"We can then measure this change, and convert it into readable electrical signals to create a vast array of different sensor applications," Tee said.

"The 3D printability of our material also shows potential in creating fully transparent circuit boards that could be used in robotic applications. We hope that this material can be used to develop various applications in emerging types of soft robots," said Tee.

Soft robots, and soft electronics in general, aim to mimic biological tissues to make them more mechanically compliant for human-machine interactions.

In addition to conventional soft robot applications, this novel material's waterproof technology enables the design of amphibious robots and water-resistant electronics.

# Updated version of Google map: Stay on track!

Google Maps, one of the most commonly used navigation app by Google, has rolled out some new features in India. The app can now caution the users about mobile speed cameras and accidents that have happened ahead.

This feature allows users to report an accident or a mobile speed camera on the road. Once a few users have reported and confirmed the same, then the app begins to show the report of accident or mobile speed camera on the map.

After some time, the app asks other road users if the mobile speed cameras are still present on the location and updates the map accordingly. It also shows the number of people who have reported the incident or the speed camera location, Cartoq reported.

This feature started to roll out in January and has been earlier rolled out in countries like USA, UK, Australia, Russia, Brazil, Mexico, Canada and Indonesia.

Currently, the speed camera function is only available on Android devices it is expected to be rolled out on iOS platform very soon, CarAndBike said in a report.





# Video games you should try right now !!!

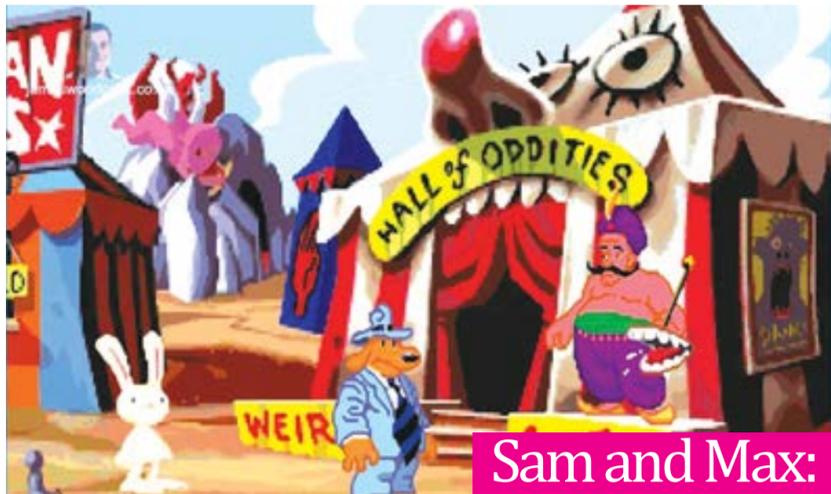


MadWorld:

Having sold 66,000 copies in its first month (for those of you with a life outside of tracking sales data, that's bad), this highly stylized action game sees players assuming the role of a lone warrior as he tries to survive a television show about thugs maiming each other in ridiculously creative, gruesome ways.

It's bloody, crude and offensive, all reasons why it probably didn't sell as a Nintendo Wii exclusive.

However, it is also uniquely designed, deliciously violent and even quite satirical so be sure to check out this tense, deftly crafted ride through hell.



Sam and Max:

To be able to distinguish itself as a sharply designed third-person-shooter amidst piles of Call of Duty installments, Vanquish already deserves some kind of award. That it is also one of the fastest, tensest and coolest futuristic action games ever made is all the more impressive.

The story is occasionally absurd but the gameplay in this thrill ride — held aboard a space station overtaken by enemy hoards — is so viscerally satisfying that it simply doesn't matter.

Phantasy Star II:



While many fans live and die for Final Fantasy, one role-playing gem that often gets overlooked is the wonderful Phantasy Star series, whose second installment ranks as one of the best in history. Haunted

by nightmares from his past, our hero creates a team to save his world from unimaginable monsters; to give any more than this cheesy one-liner would be giving too much of a story that you simply have to experience on your own.

Beautifully merging fantasy and science fiction, all set to the backdrop of intricate turn-based strategy gameplay (and even throwing in some poor translations for good measure), this isn't an experience to be missed.

Alpha Protocol:

Marketed as gaming's first "espionage role-playing game," Alpha Protocol is among the best of its kind.

Sure, the fighting and shooting aren't as exhilarating as we'd want, but that isn't what this game is about.

Instead, the real strength here is how your decisions as international super spy Michael Thorton affect the world and how everything you say changes the plot in this tense political thriller.

Interestingly, your biggest villain will be a GOP hotshot; regardless of your political affiliation, that's just hilarious and if you take anything away from this list, be sure to play this game.



999:



This game is a "visual novel," meaning it consists entirely of reading and puzzle solving. If you are still interested, that means you don't have an aversion to text and 999 is therefore something you need to play.

The story is so amazing it would be a crime to give even a snippet, but understand that this is one of the most mature, complicated games ever made.

Red Steel:



One of the most hyped games of the Wii's disappointing launch, Red Steel was a dream come true for all fans of classic Japanese action cinema. Shooting thugs and slicing them Samurai-style was meant to be amazing, and it was.

Unfortunately, fans quickly came to the harsh conclusion that the controls were broken and abandoned a game that really did deserve to be persevered with. This manhunt through Japan beautifully merges feudal drama with modern crime and, with a bit of tinkering with the control setting and a lot of patience, this is a game you need to play.

Vanquish:



While it does lose some points for lagging performance issues, Sam and Max is still a hilarious adventure through some of the wackiest worlds ever created. Starring a fast-talking detective canine and a homicidal "rabbit-y thing," this is one of those rare games that can legitimately make you laugh.

When our heroes decide to face Abraham Lincoln's statue in an election for the presidency, they trick him into saying he approves of a 100% tax rate, something even the game's Democrats call "a tad excessive." Seriously, how can you not love this?

Valkyria:



Another great case for playing more games from overseas, Valkyria Chronicles is a fantastic game that revolves around world war and is bolstered by traditional strategy gameplay elements that have maintained the greatest strengths of their genre while also been modernized enough to feel fresh all over again.

The Valkyria name has since expanded into a franchise, even netting itself a TV show. However, despite this and considerable critical acclaim, this game simply failed to bring in the consumers and was effectively pushed off consoles, instead moving over to a considerably smaller, less ambitious handheld system.

"If you can DREAM it, you can DO it."  
-Walt Disney

Future Bright



## AECC global's Education fair fuels your dream

In today's world there are multiple choices ranging from medicine to mass communications, engineering to event management, marine biology to information technology, and culinary arts to music.

Choosing a field of study that is not really suited to your interests or skills could prove disastrous. And choosing a wrong place to study could prove even worse.

Technology is booming, there are lots of opportunities with various fields, various options worldwide where one can make a better future. AECC global provides guidance to a person to have a clear glimpse on what to pursue, how to pursue and where to pursue.

AECC Global, an education consultancy founded in 2008, conducted a education fair in the city on 28th February. The event saw many young intellectuals keen to apply for the next course of their lives. The aim of AECC global is to minimize the challenges faced by students in their global education venture. Focusing on student satisfaction only, AECC global strives to maintain quality of service.

The education fair held in the city had more than 7 counselors present to help students analyse

**Srija, WCC graduate, who is applying for her MBA, said "The education fair is very helpful, because we get to know about details that are not readily available online. I did not know about the restriction in work hours at Australia until I attended today's event"**

**Other students also find such events helpful as they can meet fellow applicants, get more information and have a personalized agenda for their higher education.**

Visit [www.aecglobal.com](http://www.aecglobal.com)



their resume and to suggest colleges or courses they could look into. The students then proceed to meet with representatives from different colleges, to help them understand a little bit more about the college, their culture and the structure of the course. 12 colleges from Australia were present at the event to provide students with course curriculum and fee structures.

Why choose AECC Global? They are the leading overseas education and migration agency making waves internationally. Their priority is student satisfaction. They partner with more than

300 institutions.

High Visa Success Rate. Located in 9 countries and 27 cities.

Why should you visit AECC global's next education fair? Personalised education counseling with experts.

Meet with University representatives who will give you an overview of the college and courses.

Talk to peers from the University to know about the course of interest.

Explore scholarships offered in an University they can help assess your budget as well as the different options for financing



## CBSE suggests courses to students for higher education

New Delhi: To guide its students to make right choice in selecting their careers, CBSE has prepared a compendium of suggestive courses for students that will help them get information about various course choices, institutes and combinations available in higher education beforehand after class 10 itself, said Anita Karwal, chairperson CBSE in a circular uploaded by the board in its website.

The compendium of courses after +2, is an earnest effort of the board to facilitate students while scouting for right course choices leading to higher education later. The publication includes various course options with different subject combinations, said Rama Sharma, senior public relations officer, CBSE.

While all care has been taken to provide information, (although in brief), about the traditional, popular and new age courses, it is not possible to provide a comprehensive information considering that there are an estimated 900

universities and over 41,000 colleges in the country providing higher education and teaching a plethora of subjects, the circular reads.

"The purpose of this compendium is to generate enough curiosity in the students to explore further on the scope, possibilities, avenues, for each of these courses and to look for other options beyond these courses as well," said Anita Karwal, chairperson CBSE.

The list of courses and that of Institutes/Universities is only illustrative and in no way exhaustive. The intention is thus limited to creating awareness among the students. As most of these courses are also offered by several private institutions/universities, the readers are expected to research further by visiting the official websites of Unity Grants Commission (UGC), All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and individual institutes.

SRM IST (SRM Institute of Science and Technology) has signed an MOU with Virtusa Consulting to launch

M.Tech course on "Cloud Computing", from the academic year 2019-20.

This course, a one of its kind will see Virtusa involving itself right from the framing of syllabus, admission of the students, delivery of the course and evaluation. Industry exposure and hands-on on the latest technology are the unique features.

The students who will be admitted through a rigorous

selection process, will be moulded to be industry-ready from Day-1.

The MOU was signed in the presence of Ms.Hema Mohandas, Vice President and Asia Head (L&D), Mr.Krithivasan, Lead India Campus Hiring from Virtusa and Dr. Sandeep Sancheti, Vice Chancellor, Dr.N.Sethuraman, Registrar, Dr.C.Muthamizhchelvan, Director (Engineering & Technology), Dr.K.Ramsamy, Director (Faculty and Academics), Dr.Ganapathy, Director (Corporate Relations) from SRM Institute of Science and Technology.



## Court permits doctors with foreign degrees to pursue PG



candidates. In their judgement, the bench of justices RK Deshpande and SM Modak directed the state to process the applications of the candidates Dr Narendra Naukarkar, Dr Vaibhav Kale, Swarup Ingole and Dr Chetan Gangane on a provisional basis.

"There is no bar contained for

such candidates in the government resolution (GR) dated May 3, 2011... The petitioners were held eligible to appear in the NEET Examination, which is the entrance test for admission to Post Graduate Courses," read the judgement.

A GR issued in 2011 allows

in-service medical officers with foreign degrees to apply for PG courses. However, new admission rules notified by the state government in February, overruled the GR and barred candidates who studied abroad from these courses. "Candidates who have passed MBBS examination from foreign University are not eligible for NEET-PG 2019 admission process," read the information brochure issued by the CET cell.

Anand Rayate, commissioner, CET cell, said, "While the online registration process for PG medical courses is over, we have manually registered the four candidates according to the court's order. We have also apprised the state government and the Admission Regulating Authority (ARA) of the issue. We are awaiting their directions," he said. The court will hear the matter again on Wednesday.

## Scholarships update

### New Zealand studies

**Category:**

International Level

**Scholarship:**

New Zealand Commonwealth Scholarships 2019

**Description:**

MHRD, Govt. of India in collaboration with New Zealand Foreign Affairs & Trade is inviting meritorious Master's and Ph.D. course applicants to study in New Zealand with scholarships and course fees waivers to commit for social and economic development of both nations.

**Eligibility:**

Indian residents above the age of 18 years

with requisite bachelor's and master's degree for selected courses and language proficiency certification (IELTS/TOEFL/PTE) may apply for this scholarship programme.

**Prizes & Rewards:**

Complete tuition fee waiver for their studies in New Zealand, along with weekly subsistence allowance of NZD 491, relocation allowance worth NZD 3000 and medical and travel insurance for limited home visits during the course.

**Last Date to Apply:**

March 28, 2019

**Application Mode:**

Online applications only

### Chinese University offers

**Category:**

International Level

**Scholarship:**

Chinese University Program (CUP), HUST 2019

**Description:**

Huazhong University of Science and Technology (HUST), China is offering scholarships for higher education to Masters/Postgraduate and Doctoral Program applicants from India; covering their tuition fees, living expenses and medical insurance among other benefits, to promote a India-China scholar community relations.

**Eligibility:**

Bachelor's degree holding applicants below the age of 35 and Masters' degree holding applicants

below the age of 40 may apply for Master's Programs and Doctoral Programs respectively, provided they enrol for English or Chinese taught programs at HUST, China and are cleared by Chinese authorities for student immigration.

**Prizes & Rewards:**

Students selected under this scholarship program will be provided with full scholarships which cover tuition fees, accommodation, appropriate stipend/allowance and medical insurance throughout the course duration.

**Last Date to Apply:**

March 31, 2019

**Application Mode:**

Online applications accepted

## Smart Solar cooking design national challenge

**Category:**

National Level

**Scholarship:**

Smart Solar Cooking Solutions Design National Challenge 2019

**Description:**

Department of Science and Technology, Government of India is providing young Indian innovators with a chance to submit their designs of efficient and user-friendly solar cooking solutions and win financial grants. This program is to commemorate Gandhiji's birthday and promote his idea of self-sufficient villages

**Eligibility:**

Indian citizens affiliated to any academic

institution, R&D organisation and/or An Indian company/Industry recognized under the Company's Act/DSIR may apply for this scholarship with their design ideas.

**Prizes & Rewards:**

Selected ideas will be funded for demonstrations and industrial incubation of the product. The winning ideas will also be provided with national citation and certifications from DST, GoI.

**Last Date to Apply:**

March 31, 2019

**Application Mode:**

Two step application- offline followed by online confirmation