



Skype and other similar calling apps are no longer available on US tech giant Apple's app store in China and other platforms due to an order by the government.



American scientists have found a molecule — CD22 — that can serve as a potent target for the killer cells of acute lymphoblastic leukemia.

**FACT OF THE MATTER**

**Gin likely to make you sad**



**I KNOW WHAT TO DRINK**

Spirits such as gin are more likely to induce sadness and tears, while drinking beer and wine can help you relax and lift your mood, according to the largest study that looks into how different alcoholic drinks affect emotions. About 30,000 people aged between 18-34 were asked about how drinking wine, beer or spirits affected them, either drinking at home or when outside. Drinking spirits was more likely to draw out negative feelings than all the other types of alcohol, according to the study. Nearly one-third of spirit drinkers linked feelings of aggression with their drink compared to 2.5 per cent of wine drinkers.

**When wife keeps her surname**

**SOCIETY BIAS**

People perceive a husband to have less power in the relationship, when his wife chooses not to adopt the man's surname after marriage, a first-of-its-kind study has found. The study examined whether people's perceptions of a man's personality vary depending on whether his wife adopts his surname or retains her own. It found that people perceive a man as being higher in traits related to femininity and lower in traits related to masculinity, if his wife chooses to keep her surname.

**Cassini captures pictures of Saturn**

BEST MOSAIC

**Study sees link between pollution and sperm size**

Analysis of 2001-14 data of Taiwanese men revealed an association between decline in 'normal' sperm and exposure to PM 2.5

**SIGNS OF CHANGE**

PARIS: Men exposed to fine particle air pollution may risk having smaller, abnormally-shaped sperm, said a study on Wednesday, warning this "may result in a significant number of couples with infertility."

An analysis of 2001-2014 data for more than 6,400 Taiwanese men and boys aged 15 to 49, found "a robust association" between a decline in 'normal' sperm and exposure to PM 2.5 pollution, it said.

PM 2.5 is the term used for air pollution containing the smallest of particles, those measuring 2.5 microns in diameter or less. A micron is a millionth of a metre.

The link was observed for short-term exposure of three months, as well as for long-term exposure of two years, ac-

ording to study results published in the medical journal *Occupational & Environmental Medicine*, though outside experts questioned the conclusions.

The research team said every increase of five microgrammes per cubic metre of air (5ug/m3) in PM 2.5 exposure over two years, was associated with a 'significant drop' of about 1.29 percent in normal sperm shape and size.

Pollution exposure was measured at each participant's home address using NASA satellite data. While sperm shape and size declined, sperm numbers increased, "possibly as a compensatory mechanism," researchers found.

A similar correlation was witnessed with PM 2.5 exposure of only three months — how long it takes for sperm to be generated.

The team stressed the link was mere-



ly 'observational', which means they cannot definitively state that air pollution was the cause of sperm size decline.

Allan Pacey, a professor of andrology at the University of Sheffield who was not involved in the study, said sperm size and shape is notoriously hard to assess and their effect on infer-

tility unclear.

"So, whilst the authors have found a potentially interesting biological result, I am not sure that it is clinically meaningful."

For Kevin McConway of The Open University in England, other factors not taken into account by the researchers may be responsible for the sperm changes.

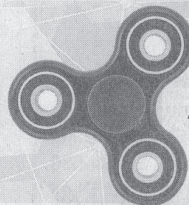
"So there has to remain doubt as to whether particulate pollution, or indeed any kind of air pollution, is a cause of semen abnormality," he said via the Science Media Centre in London, UK.

"If I were young enough to worry about my fertility, I wouldn't put moving to an area with cleaner air at the top of my list of actions — though there are certainly many other health-related reasons to live in cleaner air."



**eSight 3**

A revolutionary pair of glasses with its ability to mimic actual vision for blind. eSight's cutting-edge technology uses high-definition video in



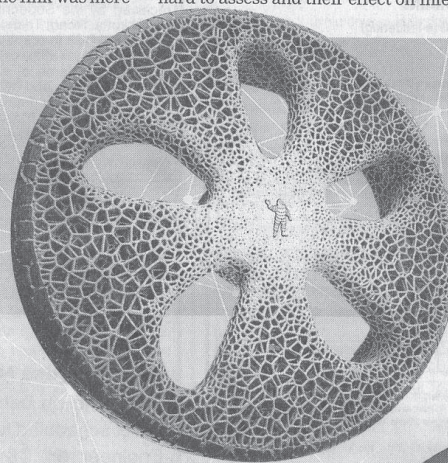
**Fidget Spinners**

A favourite pastime of millennials and post-millennials, the fidget spinners became one of the 20 most popular items in the games & toys category on Amazon in May this year. Taking the toy and retail industry by storm, the number of spinners sold in the world's 12



**Molekule**

World's first molecular air purifier and also scientifically proven to improve indoor air quality, Molekule uses Photo Electrochemical Oxidation (PECO) nanotechnology to catch harmful pollutants and destroy them. It is also effective in removing microscopic particles such as allergens, mould, bacteria, viruses, and VOCs through its patented nanotechnology.



**Michelin Vision Concept**

In the future, our cars will be smarter and so will be our tires suggests Michelin, which wants to reinvent the wheel through its Vision concept. The one-piece wheel-and-tire combo is airless, connected, rechargeable, customizable and organic. To minimize its environmental impact, the concept tire is made from bio-sourced and

**Ember Mug**

Everyone loves their coffee at a specific temperature. If too hot, it'll scald your mouth and if cold, it's not worth drinking. Clay Alexander, CEO and founder of Los Angeles-based Ember Technologies claims that a few degrees can make a big difference in taste. The stainless-steel Ember mug, reinforced in white ceramic coating, keeps coffee or tea at a precise temperature — anywhere from 120°F to 145°F, set through an app for about an hour and for an unlimited amount of time on its charging saucer.

