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Union Minister of State Shobha Karandlaje to discuss Nandikur-Mudigere alternative line with officials

Soumyajit Paul

Nandikur: Mudigere alternative railway line project is revived as Union Minister of State Shobha Karandlaje looked into this project and discuss it with the concerned officials. This line will connect Bengaluru with Udupi and coastal Karnataka, reducing the journey by four hours.



Shobha Karandlaje, Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare; Image Credits: Deccan Herald.

The Union Minister of State also added that this project could gain momentum. Railway activist Dinesh from Udupi told TNIE (The New Indian Express) that in 2010 when Railway Minister Mamata Banerjee proposed the Byndoor-Hebri-Karka-

la-Moodbidri-Belthangady-Dharmasthala-Subrahmanya Road line in her budget, it was put to a halt due to environmental concerns. Soon, people expected that the government would execute Nandikur-Mudigere. This project

will help in boosting coastal Karnataka's pilgrim tourist areas by reducing the travel time.

However, even after a decade, the project is halted at a physical survey, stated Dinesh. Hassan-Belur-Mudigere-Chikkamag-

alur railway line is under construction, and the Nandikur-Mudigere alternative line will help this coastal area improve its railway connectivity.

Bengaluru to Udupi can be travelled in just six hours if this project is finalized and completed, which now takes 10 hours.

Distance between Ujire and Sri Kshetra Dharmasthala will be five km, with this route helping people to commute faster. Presently, Subrahmanya Road is the nearest railway station to Dharmasthala, more than 50 km.

Chief Public Relations Officer, South Western Railway Aneesh Hegde

informed TNIE Nandikur-Mudigere line survey is completed. Once the traffic report preparation is completed, it will be sent to Union Ministry by this month's end. President of Kundapur Railway Passengers' Welfare Association Ganesh Puthran informed TNIE that even after a decade, this project is not initiated, and delegate from their association will meet the Union Minister of State to request initiating the project and pressurize the Union Ministry of Railway to complete this project line as soon as possible.

Source : The New Indian Express

Punjab: Government employees to be sent on compulsory leave if not a single vaccine dose taken

Thakur Udit Narayan

Chandigarh: Employees in the Punjab government who fail to take even the first dosage of the Covid vaccine for any reason other than medical would be sent on mandatory vacation after September 15.

The government made special efforts to reach out to its employees, and anyone who refuses to get vaccinated will have to take their time off until they receive their first dosage.

Captain Amarinder also permitted teaching and non-teaching school workers who had received at least one dose of vaccine more than four weeks earlier to return to work, under the condition that

weekly RT-PCR negative test findings be submitted.

The CM was pleased to report that the situation in schools had remained under control, all thanks

to regular testing. He ordered that inoculations against Covid be given priority to teachers, parents of young children.

Source : TOI



Captain Amarinder Singh, Picture from TOI

Organizations now will know Vaccination Status of Customers & Staffs as Co-WIN launches new Feature

Soumyajit Paul

Co-Win, a Digital portal started by the Government of India on 16 January 2021, is used to book and search vaccination details and Covid related information.

Recently, the government has made a few changes and introduced a new update for the portal known as KYC- VS [Know Your Customer Vaccination Status]. This new feature will help organizations conveniently check the vaccination status of their staff and customers. The Health Ministry, on 10 September 2021, introduced this feature. KYC-VS : this feature

has been added to reduce the complexities and inconvenience faced by the public.

The Health Ministry revealed that it would not violate people's privacy. This feature is consent-based and will work on Mobile number authentication with the help of OTP. The Status will be either Not vaccinated, partially vaccinated or fully vaccinated. The response received through KYC-VS will have a digital signature with the benefit of an instant share option to the verifying authority.

Source : TOI

Public gives no response to Government's 'Parenthood Project' in Udupi

Manjushree KS

Udupi: Every child needs their parents' love, care, and support to grow up, but unfortunately, millions of children are unaware of how it feels to have parents. The government has created the 'Parenthood' scheme to assist the youngsters in receiving the love and care they need, just like other children.

Adoption will be granted to eligible parents for one year. If the parents can care for the child with the necessary resources and are happy, the plan will be extended for another year. They might gradually adopt the child through the legal adoption process.

People in Udupi are less enthusiastic about this programme since they wish to adopt rather than become foster parents. There has been no adoption process in Udupi since the last four years.

As of now, it was reported that six applicants are willing to adopt. One has been rejected based on the home study report saying that the child will be handed over only after family background verification.

Within a year, the child protection officer will visit the family to inquire about the child's well-being, and if the officer is satisfied, the plan will be extended from



Image Credits The New Indian Express

one year to 18 months. In any way, if the child is not happy with their parents, they can come back to the orphanage.

Even after sharing information about the 'Parenthood' project in newspa-

pers and media in Udupi, people are not willing to apply for it.

The government is trying to reduce the number of orphans through this scheme. The individuals who have no kids should

adopt and give life to orphans.

The main aim of this project is to educate the orphans and support them for a bright future.

Source: The New Indian Express

Stone carving of Sri Uma Maheswara from the 11th century discovered in Udupi

Anjo Francies

Udupi: The recent discovery of a small, beautifully sculpted idol of Sri Uma Maheswara at sanyasibettu in the Udupi district has again demonstrated our rich culture's artistic abilities.

The skillfully carved piece of stone dates back to the 11th century. T Murugeshi, a professor at MSRS- Shirva college and archaeology department, said, "The material utilised to build this miniature sculpture is



Stone carving of Sri Uma Maheswara from the 11th Century

greenschist," The idol has a length of 9cm, a height of 9cm and a breadth of 4cm. The sculpture is a man riding a bull, where the man is represented as Uma Maheswara, also known as Lord Shiva. The hands of Lord Shiva are placed on the ears of the bull; the left hand appears to be damaged" he added.

"Goddess Uma is sculpted as sitting behind Lord Shiva placing a hand on Lord Shiva's shoulder. Over the

years, the portion from the waist up has deteriorated due to the passage of time." He added.

T Murugeshi, professor from MSRS claims that this small sculpture could be from the Someshwara cult or the Soma cult. "It was a very popular cult. During the 11th century, the idol belongs to the same period as well," he added.

Source and Picture from: Deccan Chronicle

Mangalore University to Open Dr. Acharya study Centre in coastal areas

Manjushree KS

Mangalore: Mangalore University is planning on opening the Dr VS Acharya study Centre for the development of coastal areas. The ultimate aim for opening this study Centre is to provide education related to agriculture, banking, fishing, small industry, and everything about coastal areas.

Under the direction of Vice-Chancellor Yadapattaya, the proposal to construct this study Centre is yet to be approved.

Study, research and promotion is the end goal of this Centre; through this, the government expects a good response from the public and private firms.

To construct this Centre, Mangalore University is anticipating a total of 5 crore rupees from the government. A certificate course will be introduced for the benefit of the coastal region, which includes fish export, new paddy seeds; research will be studied and will guide the university.

Dr VS Acharya has worked hard to speed up coastal development. So, in his memory, the university has planned to open the study centre. If the government approves, Mangalore University will have head office first, and later it will be shifted to the new building Belapu near Udupi.

The institution will investigate novel fish breeds and their benefits and coastal weather reports obtained through remote sensing. Private institutions do not currently conduct coast-

al development studies or Research.

An advisory committee of 25 members under the leadership of the Vice-Chancellor has been formed. Professors from different divisions, research fellows, coordinators and students will be included. The result of this study Centre will be utilized for the development of the people of coastal Karnataka.

Source: Asian News International



Mangalore University Logo
Image Credits: Mangalore University Website

Alone in Adversity- Sharing the experience of MIT Student, Swaroop Diddi

Thakur Udit Narayan

Q) As a student of MIT, how is life in Manipal during the lockdown? Please share your experience.

A) It has been a mixed experience of sorts. You feel lonely sometimes, but it is also peaceful. Overall, it has been great.

The time I have spent alone has allowed me to understand myself better without any external validation. You realise that you are experiencing something rare when you are by yourself. On the contrary, being in lockdown reinforced that I am the type of person who thrives when working in a group which sadly, is not possible.

Q) What about the mess food? Since only a few students are left on the campus, have you experienced any drastic change in food quality?

A) Not really, I must say, that the staff is doing an exceptional job. I would like to give a brief about Food Court 2. Since the number of students has decreased, the university has reduced the active area. However, at no time in this period, I experienced any change in the quality. The quality of the food has been congruous.

Q) Could you elucidate on what you said about understanding yourself better?



MIT Student Plaza; Picture provided by Swaroop Diddi

A) During my time in lockdown, I discovered that I perform best when I have a concrete objective for each day or week. I have established a goal for myself to pursue my hobbies, one

of which is photography. Also, being someone who loves taking natural shots, the satisfaction is superior.

Q) What was your overall hostel experience like?

A) It was challenging to adjust to hostel life when everyone was departing, and I was almost alone on my floor. Nevertheless, for the most part, I have adjusted well to the situation. It has been a one-of-a-kind experience. Considering how considerate the hostel staff are, it has made my stay comfortable.

Q) Are you excited that students are slowly coming back to the campus?

A) Yes, Manipal is a student town, and it feels empty without them, but I would be lying if I say that I did not love this experience of being alone. Truly, Alone in Adversity.

Shivaram Karanth's Chomana Dudi awarded Grantha Puraskara

Aishwarya Nair

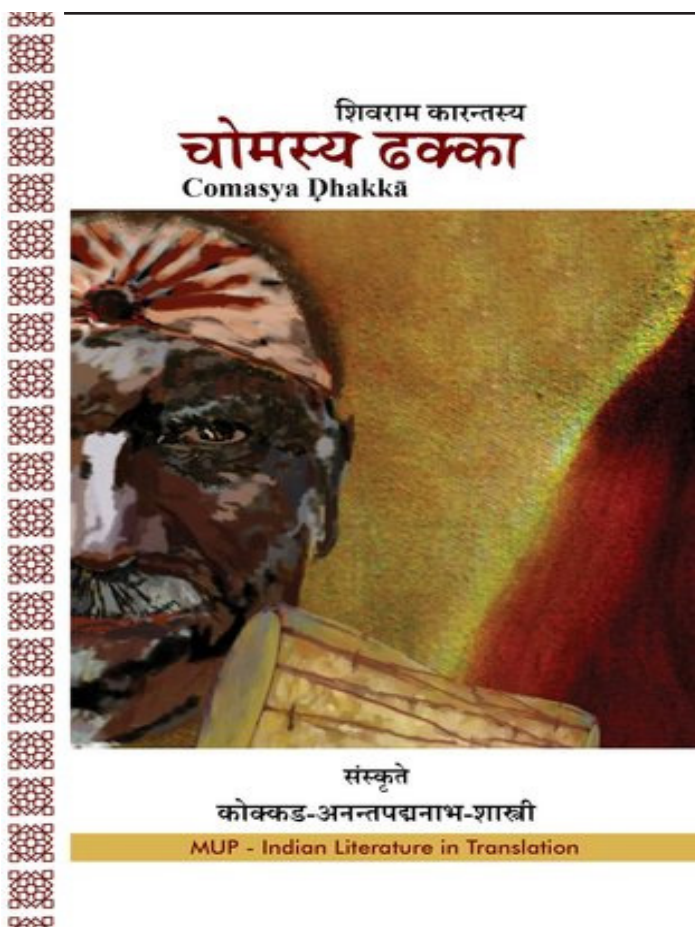


Image Credits ; Goodreads

Manipal 8 Sept 2021- Chomasya Dhakka, Sanskrit translation of Shivaram Karanth's Chomana Dudi, has been selected for Grantha Puraskara 2019 with the aid of Karnataka Sanskrit University (KSU), Bengaluru. This

book, posted with the aid of Manipal Universal Press (MUP) under its Indian Literature in Translation Series, has already received extensive interest from students within Sanskrit Studies.

KSU has awarded the top-notch works of translations into Sanskrit from numerous languages intending to spot and help Sanskrit writers. The award also comes with a grand cash prize of Rs 10,000 together with a citation for the translator, a well-known pupil, late Shri Kokkada Anantha Padmanabha Shastri. The award occasion was scheduled for 9 Sept at Gayana Samaj, Bengaluru.

Responding to the assertion of the award, Prof Neeta Inamdar, Chief Editor of MUP, stated, "We are incredibly joyful to recognize Chomasya Dhakka has been selected for this award and sense encouraged to put in more efforts closer to the collection" – Indian Literature in Translation. Narrating Chomasya's tale in Sanskrit was now not a clean mission; it is the translator's scholarship and sensitivity that made it possible."

Source: Manipal Academy of Higher Education

Prodigies of WGSHA showed a colossal performance at Accor S.A. International Annual C.S.R Competition

Yemi Reddy Sai Sanjana

Manipal's WGSHA was featured in Accor S.A. International competitions in which its students performed excellently. The event was hosted by the company to nurture C.S.R ideas in young minds and the teams from WGSHA bagged the first two places. Team Conquistadors (Nathan Dsouza, Sadhi-

ka V, and Subhash Ullal) of the 8th Course BACA who stood as Champions pitched the idea of "Linen for Women." It aims to fight one of the most comprehensive sources of waste in hotels. Team Flower Power (Lavanya Raja, Siddhant R, and Neha C) of the 32nd Course of B.H.M., presented ways to convert hotel flower waste into incense sticks and fragrance soaps entailing underprivileged people.

An Indian team won for the first time. In this competition. Both the ideas from WGSHA were appreciated by them and both were shortlisted for the finale alongside teams from Indonesia, Cambodia, and France. The finale was conducted in Pullman & Novotel Aero city, New Delhi on September 6th, 2021.

WELCOMEGROUP GRADUATE SCHOOL OF HOTEL ADMINISTRATION
WGSHA
WELCOMEGROUP GRADUATE SCHOOL OF HOTEL ADMINISTRATION
WGSHA
WELCOMEGROUP GRADUATE SCHOOL OF HOTEL ADMINISTRATION
WGSHA

Congratulations
INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONS



TEAM CONQUISTADORS
LINEN FOR WOMEN
A CSR Initiative

Our project aims to combat one of the largest sources of waste in a Hotel; Laundry Linen. Biodegradable Cloth Pads can be made from this waste and given to women who don't have proper access to Menstrual Hygiene facilities. It is a nation building activity empowering women by providing employment and at the same time adding Brand Value to Accor

Congratulatory post from
MAHE

Source: Manipal Academy of Higher Education

Rising sea level: Are we ready for the challenge?

Thakur Udit Narayan

India, a country known for its unreal potential and criticized for its lack of opportunities; there is always a conversation regarding improving and moving forward. Be it academics, infrastructure, economics or defence, India dreams of becoming a "superpower". However, we do this while we forget about our mother nature, that none of these dreams is achievable without sustainability.

The Indian govt earmarked a sum of Rs 2,217 crore in budget 2021 to tackle one of the major factors behind rising sea level: Air pollution. However, we all know about the contrast between what is presented and ground reality. There is a famous saying that "Prevention is better than cure", but it is equally important to clarify that prevention is not possible without concern.

Furthermore, in 90 per cent of the cases, we start



Sea Level Rise causing a flood over Florida coasts

preventing only after we need a cure.

The primary factors which promote sea level rise are Thermal Expansion and Melting Glaciers which are exacerbated by ongoing climate change:

According to the IPCC Report from 2019, the rise in sea level between 1901

to 1991 was 1.4mm a year which increased between 1970 - 2015 to become 2.1mm a year. The situation worsened further between 2006 - 2015 when it accelerated to record a rise of 3.6mm a year. The average sea level is predicted to rise steadily, reaching half a metre by 2100.

Rising sea level is a global concern, but it is an emergency for India, a country residing over 560 million people in coastal areas. If the pattern continues, India will face the daunting task of relocating people from coastal areas to different parts of the country by 2078.

While the situation already is alarming, it looks worst for Mumbai. Negative impact on metropolitan cities will result in drastic loss of human resources and overall economic growth.

The problem can be resolved by coastal towns developing adaptation measures to deal with the long-term implications of rising sea levels. Seawalls are being built, roadways are redesigned, and mangroves and other vegetation are being planted to absorb water. Modifying land use and preserving habitat are other strategies considered by countries.

A calamity is never caused by a single wrong decision but by a series of bad ones. Humans have exploited earth for ages on our terms, without thinking about long term impacts; now when the challenge is big, demand for recovery is bigger!

Image Credits: UN University

Vaccination Centres: Hub of Immunity or Virus?

Soumyajit Paul

The coronavirus that spread across India from the beginning of 2020 shaped and reformed people's lifestyles completely. India, a land brimming with culture and diversity, hospitality is an essential aspect of life. Without interaction with samaritans, a day is not complete and was put to a halt with the arrival of Covid.

According our world in data, Approximately 4.43 lakh people have lost their lives to this catastrophe to date. Scientists from all over the world, with tremendous effort, came up with vaccines against this deadly virus. Two doses are needed for some vaccines to complete the vaccination process. Till date, 17.7 Cr people have been fully vaccinated in India (Source: JHU CSSE).

The Government worked systematically and efficiently to attain this goal. Nevertheless, there are some significant issues at a few vaccination centres, which need some reforms and adjustments to decrease the infection rate. Some vaccination centres do not have separate rooms and queues for vaccination doses, causing commotion and disregarding social distancing protocols.

In several vaccination centres, the Government urges people to maintain the Covid safety protocols while taking vaccines. However, several individuals do not heed the instructions and pass over the safety norms laid down. The main grounds for this dilemma is arising from the lack of volunteers who maintain the protocols

among masses and keep the vaccination centres safe and hygienic.

Furthermore, if vaccination centres created different queues for different doses, it would help get around the rush.

Additionally, few centres provide vaccination to a limited number of people per day. However, online booking facilities are occasionally unavailable, resulting in an influx of masses crowding the centre to get the vaccine. Therefore, if the area has a proper online booking facility, it would most certainly help lower the number of people to a large extent and further promote social distancing.

Currently, there are quite a few citizens who, despite having masks, do not bother wearing them, exposing themselves well as others to

the virus. We are getting the vaccine to protect ourselves from this virus. However, if we do not uphold any rules and protocols recommended to us while taking the vaccine; we hamper the whole vaccination drive across the country. We are squandering the hard work of all scientists, doctors, healthcare and essential workers who have worked relentlessly to get back to everyday life before the pandemic. Therefore, if we make a few changes in the administrative process and educate people to be more aware and responsible; we can pave the way towards a Covid free country in a very brief period.

The pandemic disrupted our economy, daily life, and mental health; it can only be eradicated if we follow moral obligations with in-

tegrity, uphold safety protocols and cooperate with the Government in ensuring a Covid free future.

NEWS DESK

EDITORS

Soumyajit Paul
Thakur Udit Narayan

SUB EDITORS

Nidhi Rajiv Pandit
Sinchana Pranathi
Nazahah Shafeeq A
Anjo Francies

REPORTERS

Sneha Anand Iyer
Aishwarya Nair
Yamireddy Sai Sanjana
Manjushree KS
Sharona Sachan

Sri Lankan Archbishop accuses Premier amidst ongoing Easter Bombing Investigation

Nidhi Rajiv Pandit



Sri Lankan Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa

Picture : Indian Express

Colombo: Mahinda Rajapaksa, PM of Sri Lanka has found himself in the limelight during his dip-

lomatic visit to Italy. The Prime Minister is set to deliver a keynote address at the G-20 Interfaith Forum

being held on September 12th at the University of Bologna. PM Rajapaksa's agenda also includes dis-

cussions with several world leaders and various diplomatic visits.

The controversy surrounding his visit surrounds the recent comments made by Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith, Sri Lanka's presiding Archbishop, who believes that Rajapaksa's trip is a blatant attempt to misdirect the Vatican to the Easter bombings that took place on 21st April 2019 in Sri Lanka. The bombings are under investigation by the Vatican.

The archbishop believes that Rajapaksa has ulterior motives. And that PM Rajapaksa intends to meet Pope Francis over the duration of his visit and derail the ongoing investigation. However, the Foreign Min-

istry has stated that the PM has no plans of visiting the Pope at any point during his trip. The concerns of the archbishop have piqued the interest of the international community, with much attention now being drawn to the symposium.

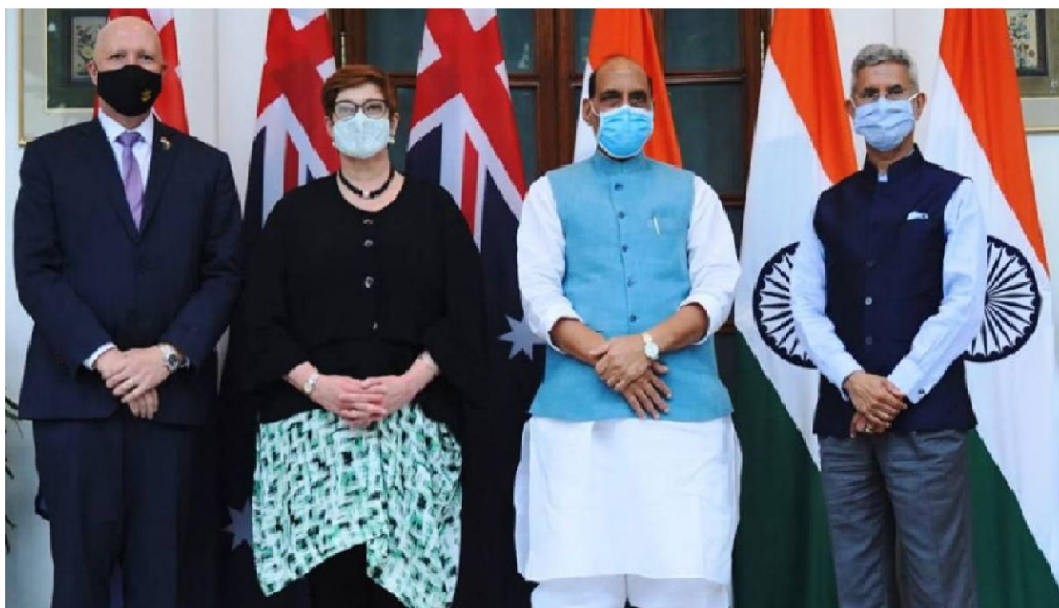
There has been growing concern in Sri Lanka regarding the alleged lack of true action taken by Sri Lankan authorities towards the accused. Sri Lanka's Catholic community continues to demand justice, whereas the Muslim minority, stands strong against the onslaught of islamophobia in the country following the 2019 blasts.

Source:

Colombo Gazette
The Indian Express

India, Australia charge head-on to a Future without Terrorism

Manjushree KS
Soumyajit Paul



The Ministers at the discussion for interational cooperation against terrorism.

On Saturday, India's External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh had a discussion with their Australian peers Marise Payne and Peter Dutton.

India and Australia's main subject of discussion was to change the framework of defence considering the current situation of Afghanistan. During the discussion the ministers also talked about the challenges faced with dealing with the future Covid-19

pandemic situation in the Indo-Pacific region. Admitting that terrorism is one of the major threats to both India and Australia, Dutton said if we look at the history of India and Australia, their defence relationship is powerful. Jaishankar said, 'It is the remainder of the significance of combatting terrorism without compromise as today marks the 20th anniversary of 9/11.' He continued saying that we should appreciate the value of in-

ternational cooperation so that in the end we are close to its core.

Later at the meeting, even after efforts being made by the Quad countries to expand cooperation in the Indo-pacific region, Australia and India had the positive look of a free, open, secure, and inclusive Indo-pacific. The defence ministers also discussed the delicate security situation in Afghanistan.

Source: Indian Express
India TV

Biden pays tribute on 9/11 anniversary; Calls for unity

Nazahah Shafeeq



New York: U.S. President Joe Biden called for solidarity amongst all Americans on the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks in New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania.

A pre-recorded video message from the President himself was released on September 10. He honoured the 2,977 individuals from 90 nations who were killed in the terrible attacks twenty years prior by visiting memorials held near the locales of the attacks.

The President and First Lady Jill Biden attended a memorial event on September 11 at Ground Zero in New York, where the World Trade Center formerly stood. Vice-Presi-

dent Kamala Harris also spoke at a ceremony in Shanksville along with former U.S. President – George Bush.

Antony Blinken, U.S. Secretary of the State – released a message of remembrance for the thousands of lives lost in the terror attacks of September 11, 2001, saying the event had reshaped the relationship between the U.S. and other foreign nations. He also emphasized the sanctity of the relationship between the U.S. and its allies, saying, "As we saw in the aftermath of the attacks, our allies' and partners' commitment to us, and ours to them, is a sacred bond".

Source: The Hindu
BBC News

Aruna Asaf Ali: Re-Imagining the Icon

Sharona Sachan

"One who is not courageous enough to take risks will accomplish nothing in life." - Aruna Asaf Ali.

After India got its hard-won independence, several freedom fighters remained hidden, and their stories faded away from the public eye. One such brave freedom fighter is Aruna Asaf Ali, often regarded by historians as the 'Grand Old Lady of Independence.' She was an unsung freedom fighter who tirelessly defied British rule with her incredible inner strength and worked to ameliorate the downtrodden. Aruna was born in Kalka, a town near Haryana, on 16th July 1906. She started working as a teacher at Gokhale Memorial School in Cal-



Aruna Asif Ali; Image Credits : The Better India

cutta, where she fell in love with a progressive barrister named Asaf Ali and proceeded to marry him.

In 1932, Aruna launched a hunger strike from Tihar

Jail to protest the treatment of other political prisoners.

She led the rest of her party to Gowalia Tank Maidan, signalling the start of the Quit India Movement. Amid danger, the police

opened fire, but Aruna remained unflappable. She challenged the British by hoisting the Tricolour Indian flag on 9th August 1942 at the now Azad Maidan in Bombay. She successfully escaped the arrest from the British government and went underground for years. Aruna's post-independence work included rallying support for Dalits and speaking out against "unnecessary industrialization," which she feared would result in environmental damage and social estrangement. She believed that more outstanding education and healthcare would benefit women more than reservation. Both nationalists and socialists paid tribute to



Aruna. Despite her aversion to accepting accolades in public, she received the Padma Vibhushan in 1992 and the Bharat Ratna in 1997. The delicate beauty and pleasant demeanour of Aruna Asaf Ali belied the tremendous inner strength with which she resisted British control and campaigned for the development of many women, the destitute, and the depressed.

Source : Indian Express

International Literacy Day 2021 : Literacy for a Human-Centred Recovery: Narrowing the Digital Divide

Sharona Sachan



Picture taken from Jagran TV

In 1966, UNESCO declared September 8 as International Literacy Day to remind the value of literacy for communities and the need to improve further efforts to achieve a more literate society. 'Literacy for a human-centered re-

covery: Narrowing the digital divide' was the topic of International Literacy Day in 2021. Literacy is an important socio-economic element, especially in emerging countries like India.

According to the UN website, ILD 2021 focused

on how literacy can help build a firm basis for a human-centered recovery, with a particular focus on the interplay of literacy and digital skills required by non-literate kids and adults. It also looked into what makes technology-enabled literacy learn-

ing inclusive and meaningful to ensure that no one is left behind. The National Survey of India produced a study on 'Household Social Consumption: Education in India' in the 75th round. The report rates state based on the percentage of their population that is literate. Even though India fell short of obtaining 100 percent, it still managed to achieve 77.7%. Kerala had the most effective literacy rate, while Andhra Pradesh had the lowest literacy rate. The COVID-19 pandemic has already created chaos in the learning of children, teenagers, and adults on a massive scale. ILD 2021 will be a chance to rethink

future literacy teaching and learning during the pandemic. Amidst this, attempts are being made to develop alternate means to preserve learning continuity, such as distant learning, which is frequently used in conjunction with in-person learning. However, not everyone has equal access to literacy learning opportunities. The continuing digital divide in terms of connectivity, infrastructure, and ability to engage with technology and discrepancies in other services such as access to energy has been highlighted through distance learning procedures.

Source : NDTV India

Vijay Rupani becomes 5th CM to Resign in the last six months

Nidhi Rajiv Pandit

Ahmedabad: Vijay Rupani, Gujarat's Chief Minister for the past five years, announced his resignation on Saturday. He became the fifth Chief Minister of a state led by the BJP to quit in six months.

Rupani's departure was not altogether unexpected. Following criticism earlier this year for his gov-

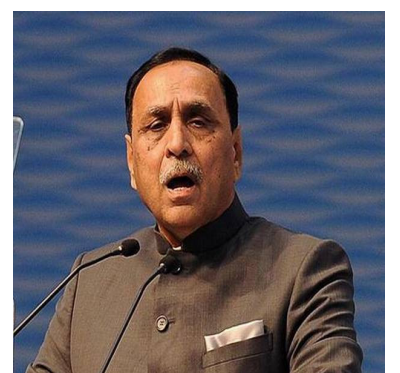
ernment's ineffective response to the second wave of COVID-19, talks began inside the party to select a suitable replacement. Rupani, on the other hand, has declared that he will continue to serve his party, but in a new manner. What surprised his followers was his failure to present a valid reason for his abrupt resignation from his office

during his final statement.

Several members of the influential Patel community are among the front-runners as potential contenders to succeed Rupani. Nitin Patel, Gujarat's Deputy Chief Minister, and Praful Khoda Patel, the Administrator of the Union Territories of Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu, and Lakshadweep, are

at the top of the list of candidates.

Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Health Minister, C.R. Patil, Lok Sabha Member, and BJP Leader Gordhan Zada are others. On Saturday, these people were seen escorting Rupani as he made his way to Gandhinagar's Raj Bhavan to present his resignation officially.



CM Rupani calls it a day into his 2nd term

Source : The Hindu

Iain Anderson becomes the new LGBT Business Champion

Aishwarya Nair



Iain Anderson (Picture Credits - Government of UK)

The UK Government has finally hired their first LGBT Business Champion, Iain Anderson. From September 10 onwards, he will be the executive chairman of Cicero/amo, a company focusing on public affairs and corporate communication strategy.

As an LGBT Business Champion, his role aspires to bridge the gap between the Government and the LGBTQAI+ community and ensure that the discrimination of the community members no longer exists at workplaces.

Iain has a wealth of experience in the business world, having been named one of *the Financial Times* 'OUTstanding Global 100 Executives', a Stonewall Ambassador on the Queer Britain

advisory board, an FT Male Champion of Women in Business, and a trustee of global LGBT rights charity, GiveOUT. He has also advertised business ventures both domestically and internationally.

During his appointment, Liz Truss, the Minister for Women and Equality, noted that while the UK strives to rebuild itself, Iain's extensive expertise with various businesses will be critical in formulating legislation that will improve the working conditions for LGBT people. While addressing, Anderson said how passionate he is about securing equality at the workplace and that he is more than delighted to be taking on this new role. He continued his statement by

saying how it is essential that both Large and Small Businesses can unleash the true potential of all their LGBT workers and consumers.

Anderson will work with businesses to support the LGBTQAI+ Community members at work and help develop solutions to everyday workplace discrimination. He will also be working alongside Lord Herbert, who was recently appointed Special Envoy for LGBT rights, to promote the UK as an exclusive place. This will be happening with the UK's first global LGBT conference, 'Safe To Be Me,' scheduled for June 2022.

Source : *The Hindu*
I News, BBC News

Women are now eligible for permanent commission through NDA

Soumyajit Paul

On Wednesday 8th September 2021, the Central Government informed the Supreme Court that Women will now be eligible for permanent commission through NDA [National Defence academy] in the Indian Armed forces.

As it stands, the percentage of women in the Army is 0.56%, Air Force 1.08% and Navy 6.5%. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul headed the Bench in Supreme Court and stated that he was happy about this decision. A plea was filed by advocate Kush Kalra earlier stating the denial of opportunity to women candidates in the NDA exam, which violates Articles 14, 15, 16 and 19 of the Constitution of India. The eligible female candidates willing to join the forces were not permitted in NDA, and as a result, it often caused a hurdle in their career growth. The only exception was the le-

gal and education wings of the Army, where women got Permanent Commission posts since 2008.

The petition was filed following the order by the Supreme Court to induct Short Service Commissioned women officers of the Indian Army to Permanent Commission. This judgement paved the way for Permanent Commission to the Women officers in the Army. However, female candidates seeking to enter the Armed Forces as Permanent Commissioned Officers through the NDA faced a hurdle. Thus, it was a significant decision, removing the roadblock and paving the way for eligible female candidates for permanent commission in the Armed Forces.

Additional Solicitor General Aishwariya Bhati urged before the Supreme Court to grant the status quota for NDA admissions concerning this cur-

rent academic year as the new change would need reforms in the procedure, policy, training and infrastructure.

The Bench asked the Additional Solicitor General to maintain records of the developments through an affidavit. This epic decision ended an era of Gender Discrimination where the female candidates were not allowed to join the forces as Permanent Commissioned officers.

Source: *BBC news*
Image Credits: *CNN News*



August records lowest rainfall in the last 12 years, says IMD

Sneha Anand Iyer



New Delhi: Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) recorded a 24% rainfall deficiency in August, which is the weakest in the past 12 years. Weak monsoon prevailed over the regions of North-west, central and adjoining peninsular west coast of India from August 9th-16th and August 23rd-27th.

Amongst the four meteorological departments of IMD, 39% less rainfall was recorded in the Central Indian division. Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and Chhattisgarh encased the division. Northern Indian states recorded a 30% insufficiency coming under the north-

west Indian division, while the Southern Peninsula recorded a deficiency of 10%.

The significant deficient rainfall in India was due to the formation of fewer low-pressure systems (LPS) and their lower number of days compared to the climatology and lack of their prolonged westward movements throughout the month of August 2021.

The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) associated with heating water in Indian Ocean over the tropical Indian Ocean, unfavourable for Indian monsoon prevailed over August, further contributing to deficient rainfall over India in the month.

Source - *The Hindu*

The Upcoming BTS X Coldplay Collaboration has fans electrified globally

Sinchana Pranathi

On September 13th, the popular British rock band Coldplay gave glimpses of their upcoming collaboration with the biggest band in the world, BTS, for their joint single 'My Universe,' and fans are eagerly awaiting it.

The duo is all set to release it on September 24th. The single is a part of Coldplay's upcoming album, Music of The Spheres. The track is composed and written by BTS and Coldplay. It is claimed that the lyrics are both in the languages English and Korean.

As per the purchase in-



Image Credits: Coldplay Official Twitter

formation, 'My Universe' will be available as a limited-edition two-track CD single, "My Universe" and the instrumental rendition of the single.

For the promotion of their track, BTS band members Jin, Jimin and Jungkook were spotted wearing the Coldplay merch

hoodie, and on the other hand, Coldplay lead singer Chris Martin was wearing the BTS Crew hoodie.

The teaser of both the band members jamming together recently went viral on the internet.

Source: Coldplay Official Website

Benzema inspires Real's Sensational Bernabeu return

Thakur Udit Narayan



Vinicius Jr. with right foot finish

Real Madrid returned at the Santiago Bernabeu with all guns blazing, as they produced an incredible exhibition of nerve-racking football to register a convincing win against underdogs RC Celta.

Madrid: Real Madrid did not disappoint the fans at the Santiago Bernabeu, who returned to the pinnacle of football spending 18 long months away. Madrid staged a dramatic second-half attacking blitzkrieg to defeat Celta Vigo on Matchday 4 of LaLiga Santander. Los Vikings played free-flowing, high pressing foot-

ball and gave their fans a hint of what they can expect this season.

The hosts started on a rocky note, as they conceded an early goal from Santi Mina in the 4th minute; they found themselves under immense pressure playing in front of 20000 passionate Madridistas. But it didn't take long to cut the deficit, as Karim Benzema equalised for Los Blancos with a thumping finish.

The Merengues faced another setback, as Celta Vigo regained the lead in the 31st minute through Franco Cervi, there were some signs of displeasure

among the fans. But this time, Madrid ensured that Celta wouldn't get any more chances to upset, as the hosts scored four goals in the second half to complete the comeback.

Karim Benzema continued his extraordinary form as he completed his hat-trick with a stunning header in the 87th minute, bringing the score to 2-2. He then capped off his tally with a penalty. Vinicius Jr scored the match-winning goal finishing a typical lightning Real Madrid counter-attack, assisted by Karim Benzema. Debutant Eduardo Camavinga scored the other goal, capping off a sensational debut that gave Madridistas a peek of what they may expect from him in the future.

The victory ensured that the Merengues continued to be on the top of the LaLiga Santander table, with Valencia and Atletico Madrid closely following them. It would be interesting to see how the LaLiga title race unfolds in the coming months.

Ronaldo lights up Theatre of Dreams

Thakur Udit Narayan



Ronaldo's 'Siuuuuu' celebration

Manchester: Cristiano Ronaldo marked his long-awaited return to the Theatre of Dreams with two goals as his side beat Newcastle United by 4 goals to 1. Ronaldo re-joined Manchester United after 12 years and it's fair to say he started his second stint from where he left off. Old Trafford, packed with

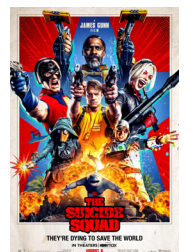
75,000 people, exploded when Ronaldo scored his first goal of the season, his 120th for the Red Devils. The talisman had to wait till the stoppage time of the 1st half to score his first goal of the campaign. Cristiano's accurate finish off a Luke Shaw pass ensured the stage for Ronaldo to do his trademark celebration, as the whole stadium screamed, 'Siuuuuuuuu'. Bruno's screamer on the 80th minute followed by a redemption goal by Lingard secured the win for United. It is a football match, there are 21 others on the pitch but this man has the no. 7 on his chiselled frame. It's been eighteen years since the teenager with a lanky frame made his appearance, he is back. The lustre, the charisma, the romance and now the reality. Source: Sky Sports

WHAT'S NEW??



Money Heist Season 5 Part 1 is just the beginning of the end. This anti-hero show's finale season is full of an intense battle of survival which ends into a tearjerker, you are in a roller coaster ride.

The rivalry goes on!! DC going head to head with Marvel by the release of their new movie the Suicide Squad. The plot of government sending in criminal super villains to do their dirty work might seem a little plain.



Donda's scope is the most noticeable difference between itself and Kanye West's recent work. It's a good departure, since it depicts most songs as exploratory or tangential rather than unfinished pieces of what is supposed to be a complete album.

Anjo Francies, Aishwarya Nair, Sharona Sachan