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AN OPPORTUNITY TO ESPOUSE FOR YOUNG WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND NEEDS

World Thinking Day, also known as Thinking Day, is celebrated on February 22 each year by Girl Scouts and Girl Guides in 150 countries. The day has been observed as a day of international friendship since 1926. It is time to speak out in support of causes that benefit girls all over the world. On this day, women's empowerment, sisterhood, and friendship are all celebrated. It also provides an opportunity to discuss and debate global issues affecting girls and women. World Thinking Day provides a forum for members of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) to discuss and offer solutions to issues that girls face.

respecting others for who they are, regardless of their background. This year's theme is equality for all, regardless of race, religion, age, nationality, ability, appearance, gender, identity, or experience. The Girl Guides and Girl Scouts are a global movement with 10 million girls from 150

of how various cultures and communities around the world function and live on a daily basis. It's also an opportunity to learn more about different religions and how they influence how communities live and function around the world.

education.

Most Girl Guide groups choose to plan a variety of events to commemorate this historic occasion. The activities are usually designed around the concepts of the day's theme, which is diversity, equity, and inclusion this year. The goal is for the Girl Guiding movement to focus on how they can put these issues into practise and help the world celebrate diversity both locally and globally.

"Our World, Our Peaceful Future: The Environment, Peace, and Security," is the theme of World Thinking Day 2023. The theme focuses on the positive impact Girl Guides and Girl Scouts can have on the world by investigating the conditions required for girls and young women to thrive in an environmentally conscious world. The

theme also emphasises how environmental issues disproportionately affect girls and young women and investigates how and what action is required for a better world.

It is observed all over the world and serves as a forum for Girl Scouts and Girl Guides to debate and discuss issues that girls and women face. It also fosters sisterhood and long-term friendships among girl scouts by emphasising loyalty and respect.

WORLD
THINKING
DAY

FEBRUARY 22

2023



*Our World, Our Peaceful Future -
The Environment, Peace, and Security*

countries, each with their own unique background, culture, and experiences. This year's Thinking Day aims to highlight the movement's incredible diversity.

Typically, one country is chosen to be the focal point of Thinking Day. The goal is for Girl Guides and Scouts from around the world to spend time researching the country, its culture, and the living conditions in place, so that they can better understand how other people around the world live. The idea behind focusing on one country is to help the community better understand and be aware

Each member is asked to contribute £1 to projects that help Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in need in member countries. Thinking Day is one of the most important days on the Girl Guiding calendar, with the theme encouraging members of the movement to consider the larger issues affecting themselves and their communities, as well as communities all over the world.

Previous Thinking Days have addressed difficult issues such as poverty, gender inequality, sustainability and the environment, and global access to

Thinking Day has become a global way to support Girl Guiding and Girl Scouts since its inception. It enables groups of Girl Guides and Scouts to meet and connect with others in the Girl Guiding and Scouting communities, even if they are located in different countries. The goal of Thinking Day is to bring together young people from all over the world – nearly 150 countries choose to participate – to celebrate international fun and friendship, as well as to raise funds and focus on the year's global theme.

The theme for Thinking Day changes each year; this year's theme is 'Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion,' which means

JUSTICE IS THE CONSCIENCE OF ALL HUMAN BEINGS!

On February 20, the World Day of Social Justice is observed to promote gender equality, indigenous peoples' rights, and migrants' rights. This day also emphasises the achievement of the goals of full employment and social integration. This is the day to speak out against social injustice and to break down barriers such as gender, race, inequality, religious discrimination, and so on. It also draws attention to the global social injustices and seeks solutions and improvements.

We can't deny that social injustice is a critical principle for peaceful and prosperous coexistence within and between nations. It is necessary to uphold social justice principles in order to remove the barriers that people face because of their gender, age, race, ethnicity, religion, culture, or disability, among other things. The theme for this year is "Overcoming Barriers and Unleashing Opportunities for Social Justice," which focuses on the suggestions made in Our Common Agenda to strengthen international cooperation and to restore public confidence in the government. In spite of these numerous crises, there are numerous chances to forge a social justice coalition and to increase investments in decent jobs, with a focus on the green, digital, and care economies as well as on young people.

The World Day of Social Justice is a worldwide observance, not a public holiday. The World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1995, produced the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action. More than 100 political leaders pledged at the summit to fight poverty and full employment, as well as to work for stable, safe societies. It was also decided that people should be at the centre of development plans.

After ten years, the members of the United Nations reviewed the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action for Social Development in New York in February 2005. The key topic of discussion was also how to advance social development. The United Nations General

Assembly declared 20 February to be the annual World Day of Social Justice on November 26, 2007. This day was first observed in 2009.

Social developments aimed at social justice, solidarity, harmony, and equality within and between countries, according to the World Summit. Without a doubt, social justice, equality, and equity are fundamental values in all societies. The government must



develop a framework for achieving "a society for all" in order to promote social justice at the national, regional, and international levels. They also promised to create equal opportunities for job seekers, equitable income distribution, and increased access to resources through equity and equality.

It is celebrated with the goal of raising your voice against social injustice in order to promote social justice and bring various communities around the world together to eliminate poverty, gender and physical discrimination, illiteracy, religious discrimination, and other forms of discrimination in order to create a socially integrated society.

In many parts of the world, poverty and inequalities within and between

countries are increasing. Recent economic and social crises have been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, natural disasters caused by accelerating climate change, geopolitical tensions, and armed conflicts. Beyond the human tragedies and the impact on the world of work, these crises have highlighted the interdependence and interdependence of economies and societies around the world, as well as the critical need for coordinated action to respond to them at

the global, regional, and national levels.

This has occurred against a backdrop of significant changes, including, among other things, growing disruptions in economies linked to globalisation and technology, significant demographic transformations, increasing migration flows, and protracted fragile situations. These upheavals have not spared the workplace. The perceived lack of satisfactory responses to these multiple challenges and changes has led to growing discontent and mistrust of established institutions and actors in public life in many countries.

In the face of this complex situation, the multilateral system has struggled to adapt to a changing environment and

provide concrete and coordinated responses to many of the world's most pressing challenges. The growing disparity between international commitments and concrete results has weakened multilateral action and its credibility, leading to open criticism and disengagement. More than ever, the multilateral system must deliver and contribute to bringing solutions to people's daily problems in a more efficient and coherent manner.

Many others share this sense of urgency, including the United Nations (UN) Secretary-General, who, in his report "Our Common Agenda," warned against today's growing divide and called for a more inclusive and networked multilateralism, re-embracing global solidarity, and renewing the social contract between governments and their people, as well as within societies, anchored in a comprehensive approach to human rights.

Social justice improves the functioning of societies and economies by reducing poverty, inequalities, and social tensions. It is critical to achieving more inclusive and sustainable socioeconomic development paths, as well as achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda), especially at a time when those goals remain elusive.

It is more important than ever for the multilateral system to unite around a set of shared values and goals, as well as identify ways to respond to people's aspirations and needs. As a result, social justice must become one of the cornerstones of the required renewed multilateralism; a rallying goal, but also a significant instrument for a more efficient multilateral system, ensuring coherence across a range of policy areas.

CHHATRAPATI SHIVAJI MAHARAJ: THE TRUE MARATHA RAJA

We have had brave leaders whose valour is admirable in our history, and one such King was Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, the founder of the Maratha kingdom. Shivaji Maharaj was a natural leader and fighter, and he established a royal name for himself on the pages of history with his administrative skills by upholding Swarajya values and Maratha heritage. Shivaji was born on the Shivneri hill fort, near Junnar (Pune District), which was named after the local deity, goddess Shivai.

As a child, Shivaji was known for his bravery and intelligence; he was trained in horsemanship, sportsmanship, and military tactics by his father and other family members; he was a great admirer of nature and often spent time exploring the forests and hills around his home; he was a great admirer of nature and often spent time exploring the forests and hills around his home. Shivaji was barely 10 years old when he killed a tiger with a small dagger, this incident made him famous in the region and he well earned him the title of "Tiger killer". Shivaji captured the Torna fort when he was 14 years old and declared himself ruler of the region; this was the start of his quest to establish an independent Maratha kingdom. "Swarajya ya ghadave hi tar shreenchi iccha," as Shivaji Maharaj used to say. (The formation of Swarajya is the wish of God)

Shivaji Maharaj conquered his first fort without spilling a single drop of blood, demonstrating his strategic maturity and political acumen. There is an incident in his life where a man with a huge moustache and beard tried to enter Shivaji fort riding on a horse, the man had never been seen at the premises before, so the main guard stopped him and asked him who he was and where he thought he was going in a hurry, to which the guard replied, "Don't you know we have strict rules?" The rider responded: "Shut up, you guard man, didn't you know I was invited to dinner by the great warrior himself? I will sever your head if you even try to touch me." As the rider began to enter the gate, the guard jumped in front of him with his sword and shield and said, "Not so easy boy! Even if Shivaji Maharaj comes here, I will not let him in without first verifying his identity; if you want to enter without following the procedure, you must first kill me." When the rider saw this, he smiled and dismounted. He approached the guard and removed his hat and makeup; the guard was stunned and immediately bent his head; the rider was none other than Shivaji, himself, who wanted to test the courage and loyalty of his men; such was Shivaji's charm and influence that even a small gatekeeper was willing to lay down his life for the King. He was a true leader who envisioned a free secular

nation and saw it through, a true father of free India. Shivaji is also known for his guerilla warfare tactics (Ganimi kava), which he used to defeat Adharma.

Shivaji was a nationalist warrior with only one goal in mind: independence. He is also known as the "Father of the Indian Navy" because he was the first to recognise the importance of having a naval force and

strategically established a navy and fort on the Konkon side of Maharashtra. A King who did not hesitate to punish his subjects when they made mistakes, he had great respect for women and also forbade his mother from performing the Sati ritual after his father's death. A King who inspired thousands of Swaraj concepts. And who thought religion was just colours painted by God? A true Jaanta Raja (the king who knows) recognises ryot's plight. When faced with adversity, he demonstrated the path to having a balanced approach by keeping pace in mind; rather than getting bogged down and worrying about the situation, he planned and worked to escape when the right time arrived, with his meticulously planned events. To overcome challenges, we must learn from Shivaji to be innovative, creative, and to think with an open mind and a big vision. Diplomatic manoeuvres can be critical in defeating enemies with bad

intentions towards society and the nation.

Shivaji began his fight against the Mughal invasion at the age of 15, when every child believes in enjoying life, in order to restore glory to the nation and free society from the Mughals' injustice and agony. A fighter who stood firm in the face of Mughal tyranny. It is now up to our generation and future generations to instill these values in their lives. When confronted with adversity, maintain mental peace. For Indian youths, the following qualities should be derived from the Maharashtra gem:

1. Bravery: Shivaji was a fearless warrior and leader who was never afraid to take risks and stand up for what he believed in. He was up for any challenge and never gave up in the face of adversity.

2. Leadership: Shivaji was a great leader who inspired his followers' loyalty and respect. He was a visionary who recognised the value of a strong military and was able to rally his people to fight for their liberty.

3. Self-Sufficiency: Shivaji was a self-sufficient thinker who was not afraid to make his own decisions and stick to them. He was a great example of self-reliance because he was able to provide for his people without relying on anyone else.

4. Compassion: Shivaji was a compassionate leader who cared about his people's well-being. He was always willing to help those in need and was generous with his time and resources.

5. Respect for Mother Nature: Shivaji was a great environmental protector who believed in living in harmony with nature. He was a strong supporter of forest and wildlife conservation and understood the importance of environmental protection.

On the occasion of his birth anniversary, February 19 (Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Jayanthi), let us pledge to uphold the values he has bestowed upon us and remain determined, even in the face of adversity, to uphold his qualities in order to make better grounds for humanity.



NANDLAL MASTER : SOCIAL EVILS' ELIMINATION THROUGH EDUCATION!

One of the main objectives of the Indian government is the eradication of social injustices. Any form of prejudice or injustice that exists in society is considered a social evil. These include things like economic inequality, caste discrimination, gender discrimination, and discrimination based on religion. The government has taken a number of steps to combat social injustices, such as putting laws and initiatives into place that support justice and equality. The government also provides funding for public education campaigns about the risks associated with social evil.



A young boy who was employed as a child labourer currently works for the government. A different child holds a master's degree, and the young girl who was engaged to be married is now learning various life skills. These are just a few instances of how one man's efforts in the village of Rajatalab, close to Varanasi, have changed people's lives. All thanks to a local weaver named Nandlal Master, who has led the effort to end child labour in the state and empower women through education and empowerment for a better future.

Prior to the passing of Nandlal's father, the Master family's small business of saree weaving and money lending was financially successful. The responsibility of raising a family of six fell on his mother, who had never even held a job before. When Nandlal's mother couldn't make ends meet, he was sent to his sister's home for further education because his older sister had been married off at a young age. Despite having the desire to learn, he was forced to abandon his B.sc. midway through and return to his mother to fix the household finances. He started learning to weave sarees. The fact that his younger cousins were working hard when they should have been in school made him realise that education was crucial if his village

was to eradicate poverty. Why just poverty, he reasoned, when education holds the key to eradicating all social stigma that permeates the ideologies of his fellow villagers? He began offering children free evening lessons. As more parents began sending their children to him, the number of his study centres grew over time. One of his most notable changes is that under the leadership of Nandlal, other educated young people of his village realized their responsibility and discovered similar study centres to teach the underprivileged.

With the aid of his fellow volunteers, he formally founded Loksamiti, a non-profit organisation, in 1994. His standing increased. And his complications followed. He began a once-a-year student outing programme in 1996. A collision occurred on one of these trips to Mirzapur. 36 people were hurt, and one of them was a child. Nandlal, who was responsible for these children's suffering, was unable to look the parents in the eyes. Regaining his composure, he understood that he should assist the needy children with their medical bills rather than just feel bad about what he had done. He launched a crowdfunding campaign and raised about Rs. 36,000 from the Panchayat and local villagers because he could not afford to pay for them all on his own. Because of his generosity, he was able to win the respect of the parents of those kids, who realised that Nandlal was only trying to make their lives better.

He returned to his study areas. He was getting more and more attention from NGOs, who only wanted to take advantage of his popularity and misrepresent the work that only he and his team had accomplished. He was repeatedly offered a sizeable sum of money for the same, but being the man of strong morals that he was, he refused to compromise his principles. Many people were upset by this, including some local moneylenders who felt uneasy



about the rise in children's awareness and education. Nandlal once received a request to organise a cultural programme from one of these NGOs, but he saw nothing suspicious about it. However, a few government inspectors raided the handlooms a day after the programme and discovered the kids at work. His reputation was damaged as a result of this because he was accused of participating in



the conspiracy by numerous people. He was broken. Guess who stepped forward in support of him and helped everyone regain confidence in his work? the exact parents of those 36 kids who were hurt! They spoke up for Nandlal and clarified that he had nothing against kids working. It was accurate. Even though Nandlal had dedicated his life to the cause of education, he was aware that the youngsters had to work in handlooms in order to provide for their family. He even encouraged them because he recognised the crucial life lessons they were picking up through their work. He merely desired that they receive an education as well so that they can develop into the best possible people.

There is still a lot to be said about the impact of his work, which goes far beyond simply advocating for the use of education as a tool to combat poverty. He has been working tirelessly on a wide range of social issues, but I only want to focus on a few of them in this article because they show how much character and strength of will it takes to be a leader and a revolutionary like Nandlal. Many of his students have happy and successful careers today as a result of his fierce determination and courage. He is also essential in eradicating child marriage and the social stigma associated with female education. We still have faith in goodness in our society because of people like Nandlal.

BJP WANTS TO CREATE 5 LAKH JOBS AND PROVIDE FREE EDUCATION TO GIRLS IN MEGHALAYA

The manifesto for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) for the February 27 Meghalaya Assembly Election was released by JP Nadda on Wednesday. The Meghalaya elections will choose all 60 members of the state legislature. When announcing the party's platform, Nadda stated, "We would implement the 7th Pay Commission in Meghalaya and the pay of the gov't employees will be disbursed in time."

BJP promises to do the following things in Meghalaya 2023 Assembly polls:

1. The PM Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme's annual payment to farmers would be increased by the party by Rs 2000.
2. Girls are provided with free education from kindergarten through graduate school, as well as a 50,000 rupee bond upon the birth of a girl child.
3. 5 lakh new employment during the following five years.
4. In both urban and rural sections of the state, there is a strong emphasis on the food processing, tourism, entrepreneurship, and knowledge/digital industries.
5. Developing multi-sector skill parks, livelihood industries, and exposure tours for young people's skill development.
6. The government plans to establish 1,000 Chief Minister's Facilitation Centers to provide services to every community.
7. Distributing medications to the general public at inexpensive prices via the state's economical Drug Centers.

CHILDREN OF MARTYRED SOLDIERS RECEIVE CONCESSIONS ON HEALTH AND EDUCATION



The government has put in place a number of measures to give the children of soldiers who were killed in action concessions in education, health, and other areas, such as full tuition reimbursement and a free health programme in addition to reservations in CPSEs and banks.

Ajay Bhatt, the state minister of defense, stated in a response given to the Rajya Sabha that the government guarantees full reimbursement of the tuition fees for the child of a soldier who was killed in battle, excluding capitation fees and caution money charged by the relevant educational institutions.

The government would also repay you for any fees you paid for a school bus that was maintained by the school, for a student train pass, or for a bus fare that was authorized by the head of the institution.

Bhatt continued by saying that individuals enrolled in boarding schools and colleges will receive a complete reimbursement of their hostel expenses. The government additionally covers the cost of uniforms up to ₹2,000 or the amount claimed by the student, whichever is less, and the cost of books and stationery up to ₹2,000 annually. Additionally, there is a provision for the student's wardrobe up to ₹700 per student annually or the amount that the student claims.

Officers who served in the Indian Air Force were guaranteed an ex-gratia lump sum payment of 25 lakh in the event of their death due to an accident while

carrying out their duty. In the event of death while performing tasks linked to violent acts committed by terrorists and other anti-social elements, the next of kin would get a 25 lakh rupee ex-gratia payment. Ex-gratia payments of 35 lakh rupees are made to surviving relatives of those killed during border clashes and operations against militants, terrorists, radicals, and sea pirates.

When an Indian national is killed while being evacuated from a war-torn area in another country, the ex-gratia payment is 45 lakh rupees. This is for deaths that occur during enemy action in war or other war-like engagements, as specifically announced by the ministry of defence. The government's ex-servicemen contributing health system offers cashless medical care to defence personnel who are war widows or war invalids and their family members.

Widows, dependents, or former service members are given access to SAFAL outlets, a division of Mother Dairy that includes fruit and vegetable stores. Only residents of the Delhi & NCR Region may use this service.

According to the ministry of finance, 4.5% of disabled ex-servicemen and dependents of service members killed in action work in central public sector firms, and 14.5% of Group "C" and 24.5% of Group "D" positions are designated for ex-servicemen (CPSEs). The same rules apply to banks in the public sector.

Additionally, ex-servicemen who become disabled after serving with a disability of 50% or more and who are not covered are given 1 lakh.

Through the Prime Minister's scholarship programme, a total of 5,500 scholarships are awarded to qualified kids based on merit throughout the entire term of the courses.

The monthly scholarship amount for boys is 2,500 and for girls it is 3,000.

STUDENTS FROM ALL CENTRAL UNIVERSITIES ARE NOW REGISTERED ON ABC

According to University Grants Commission (UGC) chair M Jagadesh Kumar, all central universities in the nation have registered their institutions on the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) portal and are onboarding their students there as well so that their credentials can be uploaded smoothly in accordance with the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020.

In order to examine the NEP implementation, Vice Chancellors from 45 Central Universities met virtually under Kumar's leadership. In numerous colleges, a registration push for ABC students is currently underway. A crucial requirement of the new educational strategy, it enables students to maintain track of the credits they have earned throughout their higher education, aids in the awarding of degrees, and provides flexibility for various entry and exit points.

He continued by saying that these universities are working to establish academic partnerships with overseas institutions in order to offer twin, joint, and dual degrees. Some overseas universities are participating in twinning programmes offered by some universities. The Common University Entrance Exam (CUET), which has already begun to be administered, is the only way that central universities are required to admit students to their undergraduate programmes under the NEP.

Kumar added that different programmes offer internships with credit while taking into consideration the interests and fields of the students. By creating R&D cells, incubation and innovation centres for advanced research, these universities are promoting research and innovation.

Additionally, he mentioned that the UGC would soon develop a platform for gathering data on the qualitative reforms undertaken by higher education institutions called "UTSAH-Undertaking Transformational Strategies and Actions in Higher Education."

INDIA IS ESTABLISHING A \$4 BILLION FUND TO ASSIST THE CORPORATE DEBT MARKET



After high-profile defaults rocked the domestic debt market in 2020, the Securities and Exchange Board of India insisted on building this fund to avoid distress sales, which happened in the past that whenever there is a credit event, there is a run on the funds for redemption, which in turn creates pressure on liquidity. This 330 billion rupee fund is being set up to avoid such a situation in the future and to meet redemption pressure in the event of such an event. This fund would step in during times of stress and purchase relatively illiquid investment grade bonds. Franklin Templeton India's decision to halt redemptions from six debt funds in April 2020 as investors withdrew funds and the fund house was unable to sell debt investments in the market highlighted the need for a buyer and seller of last resort for corporate bonds.

India's Finance Minister, Shri Nirmala Sitaraman, announced that the government had accepted SEBI's proposal for the fund, but provided no further details. According to an SBI Mutual Fund

executive, the largest state-owned lender, SBI Mutual Fund, has been tasked with the fund's administration, providing liquidity to its corporate debt market during periods of stress, helping to stem panic selling and ease redemption pressures. Because the secondary corporate bond market is limited, we require a buyer and seller of last resort, which the backstop fund will provide. According to the source, the fund is small in comparison to the Indian corporate bond market, which is worth 39 trillion rupees (USD 471 billion). According to the deputy managing director, the government will contribute 90% of the funds, while the other asset managers will contribute the remainder. The fund will be operational within three months, according to people familiar with the plan who spoke to the media under the condition of anonymity because they were not authorised to disclose it.

RELIANCE TO INVEST RS 75,000 CRORE IN UTTAR PRADESH



The Uttar Pradesh summit was held from 10th-12th February in Lucknow. It is a flagship investment summit of the Government of Uttar Pradesh which brings together policymakers, industry leaders, academia, think tanks and leaders from across the world to collectively explore business opportunities and forge partnerships. Governor of Uttar Pradesh, Smt. Anadiben Patel, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Yogi Adityanath, Union Minister for Defence, Shri Rajnath Singh, Ministers from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, foreign dignitaries and industry leaders were present on the occasion among other. The former chairman of Reliance announced Rs 75000 crore investment over the next four years; this investment will be in addition to Rs 50,000 crore already invested in the state which will include the 5G roll out to cover every town and village in the state by the end of this year to help modernize Business, Agriculture and social sector of the country, along with expanding the telecom and the retail the conglomerate is also to set up new energy business, Reliance will be setting up 10 gigawatts of renewable capacity, the largest in the state.

This investment made by the Reliance industries will be generating job opportunities for more than one lakh people in the state, apart from this Mr. Ambani also spoke about his two important initiatives which includes Jio School and Jio AI Doctor, to bring top-notch education and healthcare to the small towns and villages of the state. He spoke about increasing the sourcing of agricultural and non-agricultural products from the state to benefit the hard-working kisans, local artisans, craftsmen, MSMEs, as well as the

supply-chain ecosystem in UP, not much details were given about the new Bio energy business the only hint provided was it will help the farmers in solid waste management, besides these physical facilities the firm also connects customers to nearby kirana stores through a online mobile apps and website, and also delivers goods.

Mr. Mukesh Ambani said that the Present Union Budget is the reason for India emerging as a fast growing economy, apart from this he said that Indians are embracing technology faster than the third world. With a leading population now is the time for all our enterprises to step up on the accelerator, "I am confident that India is on a very strong growth path," said the former chairman of Reliance industries.

THE CENTRAL WATER COMMISSION AND IIT ROORKEE WILL WORK TO CREATE AN EXCELLENT INTERNATIONAL DAM CENTRE

The Central Water Commission (CWC), Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, and the International Centre of Excellence for Dams (ICED) signed a Memorandum of Agreement under the externally funded Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project Phase II and Phase III. This MoA will be valid for ten years from the date of signing, or until the end of the DRIP Phase-II and Phase-II Scheme, whichever comes first. ICED, Roorkee, will provide specialised technical support services to dam owners in India and around the world. It will also conduct applied dam safety research, education, and technology transfer at the local, regional, national, and international levels. The Central Water Commission (CWC) launched it in 2012 with World Bank assistance to improve the safety and operational performance of existing dams in a sustainable manner. It aims to bridge the funding gap and provide urgent funding to states for dam repair and maintenance. The implementing agencies are the participating states' Water Resources Departments and State Electricity Boards, as well as the Central Water Commission at the national level.



PUNE WILL HOUSE THE FIRST WASTE-TO-HYDROGEN FACILITY IN THE NATION

At a cost of more than Rs 430 crore, Pune will host the nation's first solid waste-to-hydrogen facility, an official announced on Tuesday. TheGreenBillions Ltd (TGBL), a provider of sustainability solutions, would establish the facility after reaching a 30-year agreement with the Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC). By the end of the following year, 350 tonnes of solid waste will be treated daily, TGBL chairman and founder Prateek Kanakia told PTI. "Our goal is to convert 350 tonnes of solid waste into 10 tonnes of hydrogen every day. In Pune's Hadapsar Industrial Estate, we are establishing the plant. India's first attempt to recover hydrogen from trash is this "Added he. According to Kanakia, the company will spend Rs 350 crore to set up the factory and an extra Rs 82 crore to build the storage facility and logistics support. According to him, the PMC will pay TGBL Rs 347 per tonne as a tipping charge to treat the waste. By November 2023, the first 10-ton reactor will be installed, and November 2024 is the goal date for finishing the entire plant, according to Kanakia. Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Ltd (BECIL), a government-owned corporation, will offer project management consultancy for the Pune facility, while Variate Pune Waste to Energy Pvt Ltd, a fully-owned subsidiary of TGBL, will carry out the project. Plasma gasification technology will be used to produce hydrogen utilising the refuse-derived fuel from the garbage. The Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore and the Bhabha Atomic Research Institute provided us with technical assistance, according to Kanakia. According to him, the initiative intends to show that producing hydrogen from garbage is both technically feasible and economically viable. According to Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, hydrogen is the fuel of the future and can be produced from municipal garbage. According to Kanakia, TGBL is in discussions with state municipalities around the nation about implementing and establishing similar plants in the future. We're interested in collaborating with wealthy municipal corporations wherever in India. In reality, he continued, "we wish to work with Guwahati Municipal Corporation in a paradigm of public-private cooperation.

SURAJ, A SOLAR-POWERED SURVEILLANCE DRONE, HAD BEEN UNVEILED BY AERO INDIA

Garuda Aerospace, a drone startup, unveiled its solar-powered drone "SURAJ," designed specifically for surveillance operations, at Aero India 2023 here on Wednesday. Dr. Satheesh Reddy, former DRDO Chief and Principal Scientific Advisor to the Defence Minister, unveiled it. SURAJ is an ISR (intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance) high-altitude drone designed specifically for surveillance operations, providing "real-time information to the high command and protecting jawans on the ground," according to the company. According to the company, the drone's distinctive J-shaped wings are outfitted with solar-powered cells that serve as its primary fuel source, while an auxiliary battery provides additional propulsion or reduced speed as needed. With a maximum payload capacity of 10 kg, the drone will carry a versatile payload of high-resolution zoom cameras with thermal imagery and foliage-penetrating lidar sensors. According to the start-up, this cutting-edge technology will capture, process, and transmit photos and videos in real-time, ensuring that the headquarters and base have access to critical information before planning strategic operations and terms. It has a 12-hour endurance and can fly at 3000 feet altitude. According to the company, the drone will support various Indian and global giants such as the Indian Army, Navy, Airforce, BSF, CRPF, CISF, ITBP, DRDO, MOD, and MHA. Garuda Aerospace recently raised USD 22 million in Series A funding, the "largest ever" in the drone sector. "The funds will thus contribute to the development of a 1:1 prototype of SURAJ, which will be ready to fly by August 2023," the company stated. "Garuda Aerospace's SURAJ drone will aid in military and security support by providing cutting-edge solutions such as real-time monitoring. NAL, DRDO, and several other scientists are also advising Garuda Aerospace on the development of the SURAJ drone "Agnishwar Jayaprakash, Founder and CEO of Garuda Aerospace, stated. "We are confident that the SURAJ drone will play an important role in ensuring our nation's and people's security. SURAJ will be capable of ISR and will be outfitted with AI, ML, and a Bionic Chip for advanced real-time processing "He went on to say.

NCSM WILL BUILD A SCIENCE CENTRE AND PLANETARIUM IN KOTA

Kota, Rajasthan, will be the site of the Science Center and Planetarium. The Science Center and Planetarium will be among the world's best science centres and planetariums. These will cost approximately 35 crore 25 lakh rupees. In this regard, an agreement was signed between the National Council of Science Museums and the Science and Technology Department of the Government of Rajasthan. The National Council of Science Museums (NCSM) is a self-governing organisation within the Ministry of Culture. It is the world's largest network of science centres or museums operating under a single administrative umbrella. NCSM has 24 science centres or museums, as well as one R&D laboratory and training centre, spread across India. On 2 May 1959, the Birla Industrial and Technological Museum (BITM), Kolkata, under CSIR43, opened its doors. The Visvesvaraya Industrial & Technological Museum (VITM), the country's second science museum, opened in Bangalore in July 1965. The Birla Planetarium in Kolkata is Asia's largest and the world's second largest. It is one of India's most well-known planetariums. The planetarium, popularly known as Taramandal, was inaugurated on 2 July 1963 by Jawaharlal Nehru, India's then Prime Minister. It has an electronics laboratory where scientists can design and build scientific equipment. It has an astronomy gallery with a large collection of fine paintings and celestial models created by renowned astronomers.



INDIA ADVANCES TO THE SEMIFINALS OF THE CONTINENTAL BADMINTON TOURNAMENT, ENSURING THE COUNTRY'S FIRST MEDAL



India defeated Hong Kong 3-2 to advance to the semifinals of the Asia Mixed Team Badminton Championships and secure a first-ever medal in the continental tournament here on Friday. Down 2-0, the Indians showed great tenacity as the doubles pairing of Dhruv Kapila and Chirag Shetty, as well as PV Sindhu, leveled the scores after reverses in the first two matches. In the first match of the tie, Ishaan Bhatnagar and Tanisha Crasto fought hard but lost 24-26 17-21 to Lee Chun Hei Reginald and Tsz Yau NG, giving Hong Kong a 1-0 lead. Lakshya Sen, world No. 11 and

Commonwealth Games champion, blew a game lead to lose 22-20 19-21 18-21 in one hour and ten minutes to world No. 14 Ka Long Angus NG. Kapila and Shetty won a hard-fought 20-22 21-16 21-11 victory over Tang Chun Man and Yeung Shing Choi in the men's doubles. In the women's singles, two-time Olympic medalist Sindhu had to dig deep to defeat Saloni Samirbhai Mehta 16-21 21-7 21-9 and tie the match at 2-2. Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand won the women's doubles decider by defeating Tsz Yau NG and Wing Yung NG 21-13 21-12.

SUMIT NAGAL ADVANCES TO THE SEMI-FINALS OF THE CHENNAI OPEN CHALLENGER



Sumit Nagal of India advanced to the singles semifinals of the Chennai Open ATP Challenger tournament on Friday, defeating Jay Clarke of the United Kingdom 6-1, 6-4. The world number 506 won the quarterfinal in an hour and 22 minutes, advancing to the final four against American Nicolas Moreno De Alboran. Alboran defeated Japan's Yasutaka Uchiyama 6-3, 6-4 in one hour and 25 minutes after knocking out top seed Chun-Hsin Tseng in the second round. The Indian completely dominated the first set of the Nagal-Clarke match. The 25-year-old Indian served superbly and used precise hitting to keep the

British player off balance. He never faced a break point and landed 81% of his first serves, putting pressure on Clarke to break him three times. Nagal was challenged by Clarke in the second game, but a single service break allowed him to win the set and the match. Meanwhile, in a battle of Australians, Max Purcell defeated No.2 seed James Duckworth 6-4, 4-6, 6-4 to advance to the semifinals against compatriot Dane Sweeny. In the doubles semifinals, Sebastian Ofner and Nino Serdarusic defeated top seeds N Sriram Balaji and Jeevan Neduchezhayan 4-6 7-6 10-4. Arjun Khade and Clarke of India defeated Petr Nouza and Andrew Paulson of the Czech Republic 7-5 4-6 10-8.

INDIA'S ADITI ASHOK LEADS BY TWO SHOTS IN SAUDI ARABIA



Aditi Ashok of India shot a second-round 66 to go with her opening 65 to take a two-shot lead on 13 under par in the Ladies European Tour's \$5 million ARAMCO Saudi Ladies International at Royal Greens Golf & Country Club. Ashok, 24, who turned professional in 2016, started the round in a tie for third place, one shot back. She began her second round on hole 10 and finished in 29 strokes, against a par of 36, with five birdies and an eagle. After two bogeys on holes one and six, she finished with a birdie four on the ninth, her final hole. Ashok currently leads the LET's 2023

Order of Merit after winning the Magical Kenya Ladies Open and finishing third in last week's Lalla Meryen Cup in Morocco, with the third event of the LET season taking place this week in Saudi Arabia. Lydia Ko (NZ), the first round leader and Women's World Rankings Number One, shot a six birdie 69 to tie Lilia Vu (US) on 11 under par. Chiara Noja (Ger), 16, of Dubai, shot a second round of 70, including an outward nine of 32 and her third birdie two of the round on hole 11. Her round was derailed by a triple bogey seven on hole 12, but she battled back with a birdie on the 18th for a second nine of 38 to go with her first round of 71 to tie for 29th place on three under par. Defending champion Georgia Hall (Eng) shot a 68 in the second round to tie for 12th on six under par.

13TH HOCKEY INDIA SENIOR WOMEN'S NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP



After winning today's matches in the 13th Hockey India Senior Women National Championship 2023 Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, the Hockey Association of Odisha, Hockey Madhya Pradesh, and Hockey Himachal each added three points to their tally. In the first Pool A match, the Hockey Association of Odisha defeated Kerala Hockey by a score of 13-0. Rinki Kujur, the show's star, dominated the game and was named Player of the match. The second match

of the day was a Pool G clash between Hockey Madhya Pradesh and Telangana Hockey, which Hockey Madhya Pradesh easily won 36-0. Preeti Dubey (1', 5', 16', 20', 26', 28', 40', 42', 54', 55', 56') stole the show with her easy 11 goal haul. The third Pool F match, between Hockey Himachal and Hockey Gujarat, was won by Hockey Himachal by a score of 10-1. Ritu was declared as the player of the match. The final match of the day, between Hockey Andhra Pradesh and Hockey Bengal from Pool E, ended in a 0-0 draw as neither team was able to maintain sustained control of the game. Hockey Karnataka will play Goans Hockey in Pool B at 0700, Hockey Jharkhand will play Hockey Uttarakhand in Pool C at 0845, and Hockey Haryana and Hockey Bihar will play in Pool D at 1030. Delhi Hockey will play Manipur Hockey in Pool G, and Hockey Maharashtra and Hockey Andaman & Nicobar will play the final game of the day at 1545.

EXPERT



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FAQs ON

Learning and Development through Ancient Indian Wisdom

Q1. What are the benefits of renovating the old temples?

Ans. Numerous ancient writings and Sages have discussed the many advantages of supporting temple repairs throughout the millennia. Kumbabhishekam, Naveekarana Kalasam, temple renovation, and other virtuous deeds are very highly regarded. Here are a few advantages of temple renovation from historical texts:

Agni Purana: Those who envision constructing a temple are absolved of the sins of a hundred births. Even the sin of Brahmanicide is eradicated by the building of a temple for a deity. By constructing a temple, one gains the benefits of taking a bath at each sacred shrine and one enters paradise. From the very beginning, sins accumulated throughout seven births are removed. The blessed soul who contributes for temple renovation brings his family, spanning a hundred generations back and forward, to the region of Achyuta by doing so. Giving to temple construction is equivalent to supporting its expansion. Unaware participation in the spread of

spirituality occurs. The best way to get rid of any kind of dosha or shaapa is to donate money towards the building of temples. All good deeds performed in a year are equal to one good donation to a temple's development project that pleases God. Making a donation to the construction of a temple removes fear and unhappiness and boosts self-confidence. Any donation for the temple's building made on a birthday or an anniversary will be particularly lucky.

Garuda Purana: Donating to temple construction or renovation is an easy approach to get rid of such curses (doshas) if people have them in their horoscope. According to the Garudapurana, those who use the money raised for temple construction or renovation for personal gain shall have their next birth as monkeys. The only way to avert this curse (dosha), if somebody has made such errors in this life, whether intentionally or unintentionally, is to give liberally to temple construction and renovation. Similarly, if any temple employees or officials use materials, food, or other commodities that belong to the temple for their own use, they will have their next 10 incarnations as beggars (bikshuka). The ancestor's curse will be applied to children who neglect their parents or refuse to coexist with them in this world (Pithrudevatha Shaapa). By contributing to the building or renovation of the temples of the male and female deities who are the equivalent of Father and Mother, such persons can break their curse. Those who have used immoral ways to capture an ancestral property, will suffer loss of wealth and happiness in all their future births. Even those people donate to temple construction/renovation activities, they can get rid of these curses (doshas).

Jyothishya-Shashtra: Donating Money for Temple Construction as per Astrology, people who fail to perform or who entirely discontinue the divine rituals and worship of their ancestral male and female deities (Kula Deva and Kula Devi) will encounter issues like infertility or give birth to children who have a variety of disabilities. People can eliminate the troubles (dosha) stated above that are present in their horoscope by making a donation to the construction of a temple. According to Varahamihira's "Jyothishya-Shashtra," the "Parihara-Jyothishya" section, making donations to the building of a temple may assist solve horoscope issues related to unpaid debts to one's brother, sister, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law. The horoscopes of those who have murdered, betrayed, or tortured their parents will be strongly influenced negatively by Surya (the Sun) and Chandra (the Moon). Donating to male and female deities' temple construction and renovation projects is the best way to find a solution to this issue.

Manushruthi: According to the ancient texts "Manushruthi" and "Dharmasindhu," anyone who contributes money, goods, or services to the building of a temple will be rewarded with wealth in all subsequent births, including ownership of a home, car, and the best employment opportunities. The foundation of all Dharmas and their ritualistic and spiritual activities is "Daana," or gift-giving. According to the "Manusmriti," the time of the gift is equally crucial. Our earliest writings state that gifts of food, cattle, gold, silver, land, water, and riches are all appropriate for the building or restoration of structures.

Siddha Tradition: In the Tamil Siddha Tradition, temple renovation (kovil thiruppani) is one of the most blessed and admirable acts that not only dissolves lifetimes of karmas but also blesses families with abundance on all levels. The person who gets into the act of raising a holy temple is pardoned of all their sins attained over a thousand of their previous births.

Skanda Purana: Just by donating for the construction or renovation of a temple will be wiped out all the sins which were committed in seven birth cycles and one will deliver his forefathers who are suffering in the

hellish planets.

Smritis: The "remedy of offering donations (Daana)" is especially helpful when one is unsure of which exact "prayaschitta" should be undertaken. Furthermore, it is open to all people and is unrestricted. As per Parashara Smriti (Verse 23 of chapter 1) "Self-mortification is the rule in the Krita age; knowledge is said to be the same in the Treta; in the Dvapara, they say sacrifice to the gods to be the only rule; and charity alone in the Kali age.

Srimad Bhagavatam: The Srimad Bhagavatam contains the following verse: "One goes to the abode of Lord Vishnu after his death offering gifts to install the Deity of the Lord, to construct or renovate the temple" (attains Moksha). A person who contributes to a temple for its building or upkeep for so many tens of thousands of years will be permitted to live on the heavenly planets.

Vaastu Shastra: Jeerna Vaastu Dosha can be solved by contributing to temple renovation. People who live in old homes (more than 80 years old) find it difficult to renovate for a long time. By making a donation to a temple's building or renovation, enough Punya is acquired to renovate the home. Participating in temple renovation helps to free from Shilaa Vaastu Dosha: Many individuals would have begun building their homes but would encounter too many obstacles to finish it. Spending money on temple renovation or construction will earn them enough punya to finish building their home. Contributing to temple renovation is best remedy to set family free from Shanku Vaastu Dosha: This Vaastu dosha causes members of several families to pass away one after the other at regular intervals. One can get rid of this type of dosha by making donations towards temple construction or renovation. One can free self from Kupa Vaastu Dosha by contributing for temple renovation. People regularly move homes or are unable to stay in one place for an extended period of time. One will receive the blessings of God in order to live in one house for a long period if they donate to temple construction or renovation.

Vamana purana: According to the Vamana Purana, anyone who builds or assists in building a Vishnu temple will prevent eight generations of fathers, grandfathers, and ancestors from entering hell. And "one can reach the eternal spiritual world by constructing a temple for Sri Madhava" (Vaikuntha). One who offers a garden laden with fruits and flowers for the service of the Deity will attain heavenly pleasures." As per Vamana purana one can reach the eternal spiritual world by building or contributing to the building or renovation of a temple. This will save eight generations of fathers, grandfathers, and forefathers from going to hell, The delights of heaven are attainable to them by your contributions for temple renovations.

Our ancestors advised us that we should do whatever we can for temple renovation and earn Punya Karma. Whatever we offer, it may be a brick, but as long as that brick is there in that temple, we will spend that much time in Kailash or Vaikuntha, our ancestors believed. Our 108 succeeding generations will prosper with good health, prosperity, and education. The feeling of togetherness and team synergy need to be experienced while serving for the renovation of temples constructed by your ancestors. Let us preserve our ancient culture and values for the coming generations, stay blessed!

Mail your questions on thehulahultimes@gmail.com

or

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QUIZ TIME

1. Which state is the home of Visva-Bharati University, which was recently featured in the news?
2. What nation is the International Biofuels Alliance's leader?
3. Who among the prominent people started the "Global Climate Resilience Fund"—a \$50 million fund for women?
4. Which state/UT included a Rs. 19,000 crore inflation alleviation package in its budget for 2023–2024?
5. Which state/UT is home to the Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary, which was featured in the news?
6. Which state/UT was the site of the first lithium reserve discovery, according to the Union Ministry of Mines?
7. By 2023, which planet will have the most moons?
8. Which business introduced the first two-way satellite messaging system?
9. Which nation's Sand Hills in Nebraska are the site of the discovery of a novel kind of quasi-crystal?
10. What section of the Indian Constitution deals with choosing governors for each state?

ANSWERS

1. West Bengal
2. India
3. Hillary Clinton
4. Rajasthan
5. Rajasthan
6. Jammu and Kashmir
7. Jupiter
8. Qualcomm
9. USA
10. Article 153

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I.E.S. JUNIOR COLLEGE SHINED AT THE H-WARD SCIENCE EXHIBITION



A three-day 'Science Exhibition' was recently held in Mumbai's H-Ward at the taluka level to create interest in the subjects of science and mathematics and to sharpen the skills of young students in the subjects.

In this exhibition eighty (80) schools have been participated and IES Junior College Mumbai bagged second prize for science project and third prize for mathematical project under the guidance of Shri Sameer Mayekar, Lecturer of IES Junior College. Both the prize-winning projects are selected for zonal level competition.

Dr. Ravi Singh, Scientist at Dr. Homi Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Mumbai, honoured the awardees, Shri Vijay Nikalje, lab assistant, and students Hiram Khan and Shourya Aadav.

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