

A Weekly E-newspaper Initiative of the HULAHUL FOUNDATION

# THE HULAHUL TIMES

Evolving Today For A Better Tomorrow



Ravi Singh & Tanishka Verma

## UNLOCKING POTENTIAL: WORLD YOUTH SKILLS DAY



*“The power of youth is the commonwealth for the entire world”*

~Kailash Satyarthi

It is truly said that the youth and its active skill set is the invaluable wealth of any nation and to celebrate this wealth, the world comes together on 15th July, every year on World Youth Skills Day.

15th July is not just another random date on the calendar but, a reminder of how important it is to equip young people with the right skills so that they can build a bright and secure future for themselves and for the world around them. World Youth Skills Day was first declared by the United Nations in 2014. Since then, it has been celebrated every year to underscore the importance of teaching youth the skills they need to succeed in life.

This year, the theme 'Youth Empowerment Through AI and Digital Skills,' focuses on equipping the next generation for a future dominated by technology and innovation.

In today's fast growing world and cut throat competition in all the fields, active observance of days like these become paramount where conventional school learning doesn't suffice. The world of academics and work is constantly evolving. New technology, digital tools, and modern

industries are changing the way we live and work. Young people need more than just textbooks. They need practical skills, digital knowledge, communication abilities, problem-solving mind-set, and the confidence to face the real world beyond traditional living and working style.

Notwithstanding the importance given to youth and large portion of the world's population made up by them, many of them still struggle to find good decent jobs or get proper training. In many parts of the world, youth unemployment is rising. Some youths leave school without gaining the knowledge or experience needed to work. Others do not get the chance to go to school at all.

Furthermore this is followed my another major issue of skills gap, meaning what young people know is often not required by the employer which ends up creating major unemployment and disappointment issue among youth.

The problem of Youth unemployment and dearth of skills is a serious one but can be combated positively by some serious efforts and measures in this direction.

The governments, teachers, companies, and communities across the world must be encouraged to come together and focus on real life skills development that ensures holistic development of the youth.

Besides, schools and colleges should include vocational training in their curriculum. Governments can offer free skill development programs. Moreover, NGOs and private companies can help train youth and give them work experience. Even small efforts, like teaching someone how to make a resume or use a computer, can make a big difference.

In India, for example, programs like Skill India Mission are trying to train millions of young people in different trades so they can find jobs or even start their own businesses. Across the world, more and more countries are realizing that investing in youth skills is not just good for the individual, but also for the economy and for the society as a whole.

Skill development in youth is a stepping stone in the direction of free and confident life. A skilled youth is more likely to be employed, earn money, support their family, and live with dignity. When youth are skilled, they are less likely to fall into poverty or feel hopeless. Instead, they become active citizens who can contribute to their community. And to realise this idea into practicality, World Youth Skills Day is a call to action for all of us to support and uplift our youth not just by celebrating the day, but by creating real chances for them to learn and grow. When we invest in youth, we invest in a better, brighter future for all.

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THE SILENT SAGE OF COMPASSION: A STORY OF NEEM KAROLI BABA

In the small village of Akbarpur in Uttar Pradesh, a child named Lakshmi Narayan Sharma was born in the early 20th century. No one could have imagined that this child would grow to become Neem Karoli Baba, a mystic whose silence, simplicity, and infinite love would draw seekers from across the world — from Indian villagers to Westerners like Steve Jobs and Mark Zuckerberg. His teachings never came in the form of long lectures or scriptures, but through lived wisdom, ethical choices, and unconditional love — the core of the Indian Knowledge System.

The Train Incident: A Journey Begins:

One day in the 1930s, a young, robed man boarded a train without a ticket. The ticket collector, unaware of his identity, rudely forced him off the train at Neem Karoli station. As the train attempted to leave, it refused to move. Mechanics checked everything, but nothing worked. The stationmaster, who had witnessed the incident, suggested calling the robed man back. Reluctantly, the authorities brought him back aboard. As soon as he sat down, the train began to move.

The stunned passengers and staff pleaded for forgiveness. The young saint remained silent, only saying, “Never insult a sadhu without knowing who he is. Serve all. Love all.” That day, Lakshmi Narayan Sharma became known as Neem Karoli Baba, and a spiritual movement began.

A Life Beyond Caste, Creed, and Culture:

Baba Neem Karoli never preached caste or religious divisions. Once, a low-caste laborer came to his ashram with a bleeding foot, hesitant to step into the temple. Baba rushed to him, washed his foot, and said, “If Ram lives in all, why can't He live in this man too?”

He fed the poor without discrimination. His bhandaras (community feasts) welcomed the rich and the impoverished alike. For Baba, the only religion was seva (service) and prema (love). He taught that God resides in every hungry stomach, in every suffering heart.

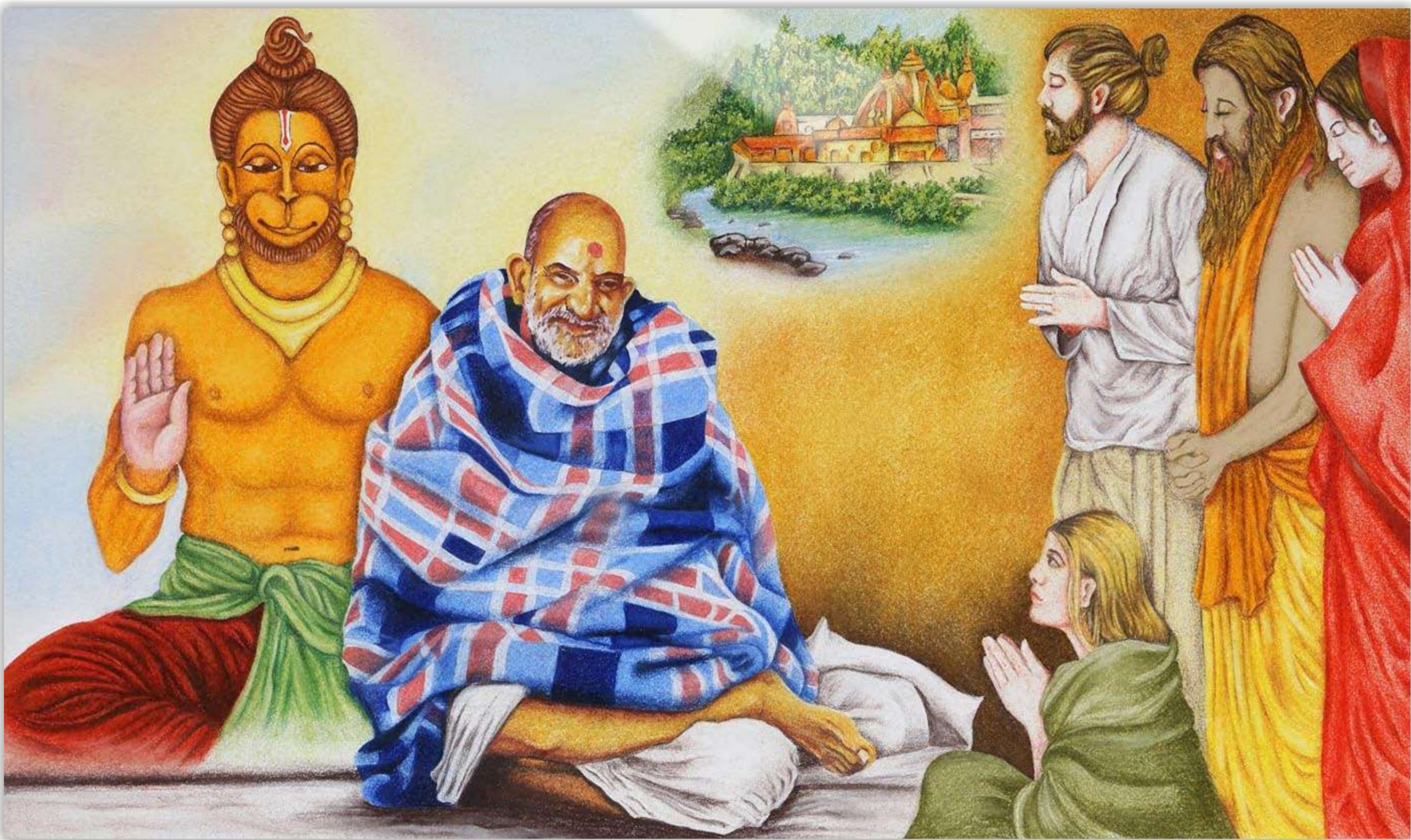
The Apple of Devotion: A Lesson in Faith:

In the 1970s, when American seekers like Ram Dass

(formerly Richard Alpert, a Harvard professor) came to India looking for truth, they were astonished by Neem Karoli Baba. One of the most famous stories is when Ram Dass doubted Baba's powers. Baba looked at him and said, “Your mother died of spleen, right?” — a fact no one could have known.

Later, when Ram Dass offered LSD to test him, Baba took it, smiled, and nothing happened. He said, “This is not the way to God. Love is the way. Serve others.”

Simplicity Over Sophistication:



Baba lived simply — wearing a blanket, staying in huts, and eating basic food. Yet world leaders, scholars, and ordinary people came to him, attracted by the authenticity of his presence. He would often repeat, “Sab ka malik ek hai – There is only one master of all.”

He never sought fame or a following. In fact, he discouraged people from calling him a guru. For him, the highest virtue was humility.

Service Before Self: An Ashram of Values:

Baba Neem Karoli established many temples and ashrams — not to spread religion but to offer spaces of peace, seva, and equality. His ashrams provided food, shelter, and spiritual solace to anyone in need.

He would say, “Helping others is helping God Himself. Don't look for God in idols, look for Him in the eyes of the one in pain.”

Philosophy Rooted in Indian Knowledge System:

Neem Karoli Baba's philosophy resonated with Bhakti Yoga — the path of devotion. But his Bhakti was not about blind rituals. It was about practical compassion, truthfulness, inner stillness, and selfless service.

- Dharma (duty): Baba lived his dharma through silent service. He would clean ashram floors himself.
- Ahimsa (non-violence): He preached kindness not just in action but in thought and words.
- Satya (truth): He never claimed divinity or powers. He only asked people to be good humans.
- Seva (selfless action): Every act of helping another, he believed, was an act of worship.
- Antaryamin (inner consciousness): He taught that God resides within. Real yoga is to purify the heart.

Verses Reflecting His Spirit:

Though Baba did not compose many verses himself, his teachings reflect the core of Bhakti literature, like those of Kabir and Tulsidas. Here's one he often quoted:

"Jo jan prem bhakti ka paala, So hi param pad paave n i r m a l a . " He who walks the path of love and devotion, reaches the highest, purest state.

Neem Karoli Baba's life is a timeless message from the Indian knowledge system — that greatness lies in humility, divinity in service, and truth in love. His simplicity, moral clarity, and deep compassion show that one doesn't need robes, rituals, or recognition to be spiritual. In a world torn by ego and materialism, Neem Karoli Baba reminds us that a loving heart and helping hand are the truest forms of worship.

To the youth of today, Baba's life teaches that you don't have to be loud to be powerful, or rich to be influential. Serve with integrity, act with kindness, and let your values guide your path — this is the eternal light of India's knowledge tradition.

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Ravi Singh & Tanishka Verma

WILDLIFE'S TOOTH FAIRY: THE STORY OF EARTH BRIGADE'S FOUNDER

INTERVIEW BY  
TANISHKA VERMA

*“When you have the intent,  
Universe makes it happen.”*  
- Dr. Sarita Subramaniam

Dr. Sarita, a dentist by profession, a wildlife conservationist by passion, and the founder of Earth Brigade Foundation (EBF), in a conversation



with The HULAHUL Times shares about her early life and simplistic upbringing in a middle-class family in Mumbai. She recalls her early days and touches upon her childhood vacations to Kerala that built her love and affection for animals. She shares that her love for animals is a gift given by her father in early childhood who taught her not to treat animals as toys but as companions. She always had a philanthropist soul in her which motivated her to wholeheartedly study biology and pursue medicine to help people in need.

However, she also expresses her disappointment when she couldn't make it to MBBS and had to join Dentistry. But, as she believes, “when you have the intent, Universe makes it happen” and so does her admission in dentistry did. “My admission in dentistry gave me the time I needed for my cause of wildlife conservation”, added Dr. Subramaniam. Also, she gladly shares that she is probably the only Dentist in the country who has been doing root canals for dogs and cats consistently.

She has always been a person who had a keen interest in social work but never had the formal intention to work in the area of wildlife conservation. It was only after her consistent

root canal procedures and famous Kanha Tiger Reserve story that motivated her to start an NGO – “Earth Brigade Foundation”.

She remembers regularly visiting Kanha Tiger Reserve for more than a decade or so and shares how she saw a sub adult Tigress in 2017 who came out in evening to drink water from a small puddle but struggled a lot due to shortage of water and that's when it struck Dr. Sarita's mind to do something about the issue and help these wildlife species. And from thereon the strings of successful solar installation started, one after other and continues till date.

She precisely remembers soliciting a fund of rupees 4.5 lakh after coming back from Kanha Tiger Reserve with the support of her family and friends. Dr. Sarita shares that she got immense support from people who actively supported and showed trust in her. She says it took almost one year for her to formalise everything and to get the paper work done. And, then finally in January 2018 they got the solar installation done in Bandipur National Park which were three at a time. Her wildlife conservation theory is based on two aspects 'compassion' and 'larger benefit', to wildlife and forest.

In an answer to a question about the name of her foundation she says that 'Brigade' in 'Earth Brigade Foundation' means an actionable community which is truly guided by



one cause i.e. wildlife protection and it proactive. She also gives due respect to people with whom she managed to do 189 successful installation which otherwise wouldn't have been possible.

Though her cause today has achieved major milestones, yet she faced a lot of challenges initially. She mentions that nobody



would take them seriously because of the lack of formal wildlife background and had some amount of scepticism but somehow, they always managed to get permissions from the senior forest officials because their intent was pure and they delivered what they said they would do. Moreover, she says that there were occasional funding challenges, which sometimes still exist.

Dr. Subramaniam and her active team also helped people especially the forest staff during the COVID 19 pandemic by providing good quality oxygen concentrators at the right time and were able to raise a fund of 18 lakh rupees solely for oxygen concentrator supply.

Despite of all the praise worthy work that EBF continues to do, its founder and the visionary Dr. Sarita doesn't label herself as an altruist and says 'that true altruism doesn't exist' as we all get something in return, even if those are some heart-warming experiences.

Dr. Sarita shares that her organisation runs three main initiatives – Green, Pink, and Street Brigades. Green Brigade is closest to her heart, especially their project at Gehri Ghat in Panna

Tiger Reserve, where they installed a solar pump along the Ken River to supply water for wildlife and a nearby chowki. She also mentions Project Aquarius, which uses solar pumps to transfer water from borewells to other sources. Recalling the Pink Brigade's relief work during the Manipur riots, she was touched by a thank-you video from women they helped. From the Street Brigade, a student's act of adopting a malnourished street dog restored her faith in kindness.

She is the most selfless social worker who focuses only on working right and not thinking about the rewarding aspect of it. However, when finally, their work started being recognised from April 2024 they felt a surreal relief that now more people were able to connect with their cause which grew bigger with EBF's recognition in the Water for All



category at the Sustainability awards which is a most endearing and a cherished memory for them.

Lastly, on being asked what message a Dr. Sarita would like to give to her younger self, she replied with utmost serenity, “be kind to yourself, start forgiving yourself for all those things you blame yourself”.

She is truly an inspiration for the humanity and an entire generation to come. Her words, “charity begins at home” are truly motivating and makes one realise that even small steps can make a larger difference.

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ROOTS OF REVIVAL: HARSHVARDHAN TYAGI'S ORGANIC FARMING REVOLUTION



Harshvardhan Tyagi, a management graduate from Hapur, Uttar Pradesh, chose a different path in 2019, leaving his corporate job to return to his farming roots. He started natural farming on his 1.5-hectare family land, cultivating crops like basmati rice, turmeric, and vegetables without using any chemicals.

To uplift other farmers, Tyagi established the Aarambh Sheel Kisan FPO in 2022. This farmer-producer organization empowers small farmers by helping them process, package, and directly sell their organic produce to urban consumers, especially in Delhi-NCR. By focusing on fair pricing, the FPO achieved a turnover of over ₹1

crore within two years, significantly increasing farmer incomes and creating jobs in rural areas by cutting out middlemen.

Tyagi's dedication has been recognized with awards from the Union Education Minister and the Uttar Pradesh Agriculture Minister. As a member of the Global Farmer Business Network, he now mentors other farmers in organic farming and rural entrepreneurship.

Looking forward, Tyagi aims to venture into e-commerce, launch herbal products, and even start farm tourism. His belief, "When farmers grow together, India grows stronger," truly embodies his inspiring journey in sustainable agriculture.

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FEEDING THE FUTURE: GLOBAL AGRI - FOOD TRENDS THROUGH 2034



The latest OECD-FAO Agricultural Outlook 2025–2034 paints a picture of significant shifts in global food and agriculture. By 2034, we anticipate a 14% increase in worldwide agricultural and fish production, largely fueled by efficiency gains in middle-income nations. Biofuel demand, particularly in Brazil, India, and Indonesia, is also set to steadily climb.

A major trend is the rising consumption of meat, fish, and dairy in developing countries as incomes grow. Global per capita calorie intake from animal sources is expected to jump by 6%, with lower-middle-income

countries seeing a substantial 24% increase. While this is positive for nutrition in many regions, low-income countries still face challenges, consuming less than half the recommended daily animal-sourced calories.

India and Southeast Asia are poised to account for nearly 40% of the global consumption growth. In contrast, higher-income nations may reduce their intake of fats and sweeteners due to health awareness. Ultimately, boosting agricultural productivity is crucial to satisfy this increasing demand, combat hunger, and address environmental concerns.

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PUNJAB TO CARRY OUT GM MAIZE FIELD TRAILS DESPITE OBJECTION



Punjab is set to conduct field trials of genetically modified (GM) maize, despite objections from anti-GM activists. The Punjab Agricultural University (PAU) is carrying out these trials during the kharif season. Punjab Agriculture Minister Gurmeet Singh Khudian stated in an interview with Business Line that PAU continues its research, including field trials, which are essential for developing crop varieties to address future challenges.

The Coalition for a GM-Free India, led by anti-GM activists, has raised concerns about the field trials of GM maize being conducted by PAU. They argue that maize, which consumes less water than cotton, could be a viable alternative for farmers in water-scarce

regions.

Kavitha Kuruganti, a representative of the Coalition for a GM-Free India, expressed her primary concern regarding the Punjab government's existing ban on glyphosate. She questioned how PAU could obtain a 'No Objection Certificate' for trials involving a pesticide that the state has already prohibited due to its known health and environmental risks.

In her letter, Kuruganti noted that while the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) had considered field trials in 11 states, only PAU (Ludhiana) responded positively. The activist cautioned that introducing more chemicals into Punjab's agricultural landscape could be "disastrous," especially given the state's current environmental health crisis. She emphasized the need for Punjab to exercise extreme caution regarding hazardous technologies like herbicide-tolerant (HT) and Bt (GM) crops, as they could lead to increased use of harmful agrochemicals, adversely affecting both farmers and consumers.

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INDIA LAUNCHES 6-YEAR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY PROGRAMME FOR 17MILLION FARMERS

The 100-odd districts will be selected on the basis of three major criteria which are low crop productivity, moderate crop density and below average credit penetration, the Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw told reporters after the cabinet meeting .The programme has been modelled on the lines of the aspirational districts programme of NITI Aayog and was announced in the 2025-26 Union Budget .It will be run for six years starting financial year 2025-26, and is projected to help around 17 million farmers.

Later, union agriculture minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that by the end of this month the 100 districts would be identified and the programme would formally start from October.He said there would be a committee of ministers to monitor the scheme at the national level, while there would be a panel of secretaries drawn from different departments to review the programme. Abhishek Jain, Fellow and Director - Green Economy and Impact Innovations, Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) said that the district selection for the scheme

could improve by using annual net agricultural income per hectare

Vaishnaw, meanwhile, said that each selected district will devise a district-wise agriculture and allied activities plan. The plan will be devised by a committee under the District Collector.NITI Aayog will provide the overall guidance and handholding of the scheme, while Central and state agriculture universities will be assigned to each district as technical knowledge partner. The panel will also undertake extensive consultation, understand the cropping pattern and allied activities under the agro-climatic conditions. The Union Cabinet on Wednesday cleared the Prime Minister Dhan-Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY), an ambitious scheme which seeks to lift the agriculture profile of 100 districts with an annual outlay of ~24,000 crore. The funds will be provided through convergence of schemes.

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PM-KISAN UPDATE: 20TH INSTALMENT EXPECTED JULY 18 ELIGIBILITY STEPS CRUCIAL



The 20th instalment of the PM-KISAN Samman Nidhi Yojana is expected to be released around July 18, 2025. Under this central government scheme, eligible farmers receive Rs 6,000 per year in three instalments of Rs 2,000 each, directly into their bank accounts through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

The last payment (19th instalment) was credited on February 24, 2025, and the next one was expected in June. Due to PM Modi's foreign tour from July 2 to 9, the payment got delayed. Now, it is likely to be released during his rally in Motihari, Bihar on July 18.

However, not all farmers will get this payment. Only those who have completed e-KYC, linked Aadhaar to their bank accounts, updated land records, and checked account details will receive it. Incomplete steps may lead to delays or no payment.

To ensure your benefit, complete e-KYC online at [pmkisan.gov.in](https://pmkisan.gov.in) or visit your nearest CSC. Also, update your mobile number and check your beneficiary status on the website.

For help, call the PM-KISAN helpline: 155261 / 1800-115-5266 or email [pmkisan-ict@gov.in](mailto:pmkisan-ict@gov.in).

Act now! Don't miss out on your Rs 2,000 payment.

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STUDENTS IN DELHI GOVT SCHOOLS TO GET ENTREPRENEURIAL TRAINING UNDER NEEEV SCHEME



The Delhi government has launched a new initiative called the NEEEV scheme to provide entrepreneurial training to students in its government schools. The program aims to equip young learners with essential business skills and encourage them to think creatively and independently. NEEEV, which stands for Nurturing Entrepreneurship, Education, Empowerment, and Vocational Training, is designed to foster innovation and a problem-solving mindset among school students from an early age.

As part of the scheme, students from classes 9 to 12 will receive hands-on training in business planning, budgeting, marketing, and product development. The focus is not only on

theoretical knowledge but also on practical application, enabling students to develop and present their own business ideas. Selected students will even get the chance to pitch their ideas to real investors and receive financial support.

The initiative is part of the Delhi government's broader efforts to improve education quality and provide students with future-ready skills. Education Minister Atishi emphasized that the goal is to build confidence and help students take charge of their careers, especially those from economically weaker sections. Special training modules and workshops will be conducted in collaboration with industry experts and entrepreneurs.

The NEEEV scheme also highlights the government's commitment to integrating skill-based education into the mainstream school curriculum. With this step, Delhi hopes to create a generation of job creators rather than just job seekers, empowering students to contribute meaningfully to the economy and society.

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DELE PLANS TO IMPLEMENT NIPUN BHARAT INITIATIVE TO ENHANCE LEARNING OUTCOMES



Education (DeLE), Delhi, has announced the implementation of the NIPUN Bharat initiative to improve foundational literacy and numeracy among school students. This step aligns with the national vision of ensuring every child in India achieves basic reading and math skills by the end of Grade 3.

The initiative, launched by the Ministry of Education, focuses on students in early grades, especially those in government and aided schools. Under this plan, Delhi schools will now follow a structured program aimed at building strong foundational learning. Teachers will be trained to identify learning gaps and use targeted teaching strategies to support students who need

extra help.

DeLE plans to conduct regular assessments to monitor student progress in literacy and numeracy. Based on performance, schools will adjust teaching methods and provide remedial support when necessary. The program also encourages parental involvement and community participation to reinforce learning at home.

In addition to training teachers, learning materials and digital tools will be developed to make lessons more engaging and accessible. Special attention will be given to multilingual learning environments to ensure all students, regardless of language background, can benefit from the initiative.

The NIPUN Bharat mission represents a shift toward competency-based learning in India's education system. By focusing on basic skills in early education, Delhi aims to reduce dropout rates and prepare students for future academic success.

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PM SHRI SCHOOLS INTEGRATE DIGITAL BEST PRACTICES TO ENHANCE ACADEMIC OUTCOMES

PM SHRI schools in Varanasi and Sewapuri are transforming classroom learning through the adoption of digital technologies. Traditional chalk-and-board settings are being replaced by smart classrooms equipped with tools like the Diksha app, allowing students to engage with simulations in science, math, and languages that go beyond conventional lab resources.

In Sewapuri, teachers use biometric attendance and maintain a pupil-teacher ratio of around 22:1—better than international norms. Academic Resource Persons (ARPs) work closely with students, offering guidance and mentorship.

At PM SHRI PS Bhitari in Varanasi, a composite grant of ₹100,000 per year has enabled smart-chalk classrooms that make learning feel interactive—so much so that both boys and girls prefer attending this



government school over convent alternatives. The headmaster highlights how this shift has boosted motivation among students and parents, particularly those from migrant families, who now attend every Parent-Teacher meeting.

Overall, these PM SHRI schools showcase how the integration of ICT, smart classrooms, biometric systems, and dedicated mentor support can make learning more engaging, personalized, and effective. Their success underscores the national drive under NEP 2020 to modernize education and prepare students with 21st-century skills—all rooted in sound digital pedagogy.

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MAHARASHTRA ANNOUNCES FULL TUITION AND EXAM FEE WAIVER FOR ORPHAN STUDENTS IN COLLEGES



In a major step towards inclusive education, the Maharashtra government has declared a 100% waiver on tuition and examination fees for orphan students enrolled in colleges across the state. The decision was recently approved by the state cabinet and will apply to all higher education institutions, including government, aided, and private colleges.

This progressive policy aims to support orphaned students who often struggle financially to continue their education. As per the government notification, the fee waiver will include tuition, examination, and other mandatory academic charges. The scheme is open to orphan students pursuing undergraduate, postgraduate, diploma, and professional courses.

To avail of the benefit, students must present official documents confirming their orphan status. The colleges have been instructed to strictly implement the policy and ensure no eligible student is denied support. Additionally, the government will reimburse the colleges for the waived fees.

This initiative aligns with the state's broader goals of promoting education equity and improving access for underprivileged youth. Education Minister Deepak Kesarkar emphasized that no child should be deprived of education due to financial constraints. He added that the scheme would empower orphaned students by allowing them to focus on their studies without the burden of fees.

The move has been widely appreciated by social activists and education experts, who believe it will significantly improve enrollment and retention rates among orphan students in Maharashtra's colleges.

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DELHI LAUNCHES ONE-YEAR FELLOWSHIP TO PROMOTE THE CAPITAL'S HERITAGE AND TOURISM



Delhi's state government has introduced a year-long Tourism and Heritage Fellowship, inviting 40 young professionals each year to champion the city's rich cultural landscape. Selected fellows—aged under 35 and holding at least a graduate degree—will receive a monthly stipend of ₹50,000 and a certificate upon completion.

The initiative, overseen by the Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation (DTTDC), aims to empower local talent in line with the Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision, strengthening internal capabilities and reducing reliance on outside consultants. Chief Minister Rekha Gupta described it as a strategic effort to build a vibrant, inclusive, and globally recognized tourism ecosystem.

Participants will engage in a variety of activities: leading heritage walks, guiding tours, creating digital and promotional content, coordinating events, and assisting at prominent venues like Dilli Haat and the Garden of Five Senses. They will also support film-shoot facilitation and MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, Exhibitions) operations.

Applicants must be proficient in English and Hindi, possess solid digital skills, and bring at least one year of experience in tourism or related sectors—especially those with tourism or hospitality qualifications will be preferred.

This fellowship is designed not only to preserve Delhi's cultural heritage but also to build a capable, youth-driven workforce in tourism. By integrating young professionals into government tourism efforts, authorities hope to foster innovation, community connection, and economic growth in the capital's heritage sector.

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TESLA'S GRAND INDIA ENTRY: ELECTRIFYING THE FUTURE AMID POLICY JITTERS AND PRICING SHOCK

In a moment hailed as historic for India's electric vehicle (EV) landscape, American EV pioneer Tesla officially marked its debut in the country with the opening of its first showroom at Mumbai's upscale Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC), nestled inside Maker Maxity Mall. The move comes after years of anticipation, speculation, and behind-the-scenes negotiations involving Tesla CEO Elon Musk and Indian policymakers. Industry watchers see this entry not just as a business expansion, but as a symbolic shift in India's clean mobility ambitions.

The showroom's opening follows a quiet teaser campaign on Musk's X platform (formerly Twitter), where a simple “Coming soon” graphic with an Indian motif hinted at the July 2025 launch. The company has reportedly begun setting the stage by shipping six units of its Model Y SUV from its Shanghai factory to Mumbai. These are meant for display and test drives, with customer deliveries scheduled to begin from August 1.

For now, Tesla will only retail its Model Y, a mid-size all-electric SUV that has enjoyed global popularity. While the much-anticipated Model 3 Tesla's most budget-friendly EV will also be showcased, it is expected to go on sale only later in 2025. Tesla's entry into India is being viewed as both ambitious and cautious: limited product launch, high-end location, and significant reliance on imports signal a test-the-waters approach.

However, this electrifying launch is not without its shocks especially when it comes to pricing. Due to India's steep import duties on foreign electric vehicles, the price tag on the Model Y is expected to hover

around \$56,000 (nearly ₹47 lakh), which is significantly higher than its global counterparts. In the U.S., the same car sells for \$44,990, and in China, for about \$36,700. This pricing disparity, caused by India's current 70% import duty on EVs, is likely to narrow Tesla's consumer base to elite buyers unless the government provides some tariff relief or Tesla commits to local manufacturing.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal publicly welcomed Tesla's India foray, hailing it as a catalyst for clean and sustainable mobility. Yet, the government finds itself in a delicate policy conundrum. On one hand, India is eager to attract cutting-edge global investments. On the other, domestic EV manufacturers like Tata Motors and Mahindra have expressed concerns that lowering import duties without ensuring Tesla sets up a local manufacturing base could threaten homegrown brands and undermine the indigenous EV ecosystem.

Elon Musk has long cited India's high import taxes as a barrier to entry, suggesting that building factories in the country would only make sense after a clear path to profitability is established. While talks around Tesla potentially setting up a local production unit are ongoing, nothing formal has been announced.

In essence, Tesla's arrival is as high-stakes as it is high-profile. It's poised to trigger greater competition in the EV sector, improve charging infrastructure, and bring a global sheen to India's clean energy transition. Yet, the road ahead is anything but smooth. Between bureaucratic hesitations, steep import costs, and the price-sensitive Indian consumer mindset, Tesla will have to navigate carefully to gain traction.



Still, for India, the EV journey has just received a powerful jolt. Whether this spark becomes a blazing transformation or fizzles into a niche luxury segment depends on how Tesla and Indian policymakers align their expectations in the months ahead. One thing is certain: the future of mobility in India just got a lot more electric.

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CABINET CLEARS ₹50,000 CRORE PACKAGE TO BOOST AGRICULTURE AND GREEN ENERGY



In a major push for rural development and clean energy, the Indian Cabinet has approved a comprehensive package exceeding ₹50,000 crore. This investment is directed towards transforming underperforming agricultural districts and accelerating the country's renewable energy capacity, aligning with India's goals of economic inclusivity and climate resilience.

PM Dhan Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY): ₹24,000 Crore for Agricultural Upliftment

The cornerstone of this initiative is the Prime Minister Dhan Dhaanya Krishi Yojana (PMDDKY), which earmarks ₹24,000 crore over the next six years. The program targets 100 low-performing districts each

state having at least one identified based on challenges such as low productivity, limited irrigation, poor access to credit, and inadequate storage infrastructure.

The government will integrate 36 existing schemes from 11 ministries under this single umbrella to ensure efficient use of resources. The goal is to impact 1.7 crore farmers by improving irrigation, encouraging crop diversification, expanding warehousing, and enhancing credit facilities. Drawing inspiration from the Aspirational Districts model, the scheme aims for holistic district-level transformation.

Green Energy Push: ₹27,000 Crore for Renewable Infrastructure

In line with India's clean energy ambitions, the Cabinet also approved significant capital infusions into two major public sector green energy firms.

NTPC Green Energy Ltd (NGEL) will receive a capital boost of ₹20,000 crore. This is a sharp increase from its earlier ₹7,500 crore limit, intended to rapidly expand the company's renewable footprint. Currently, NGEL has 6 GW operational capacity and 26 GW under development, targeting 60 GW by 2032. The additional capital will fast-track solar, wind, and green hydrogen initiatives.

NLC India Renewables Ltd (NIRL), the green arm of Neyveli Lignite Corporation, will get ₹7,000 crore. This includes ₹6,263 crore worth of asset transfer and ₹700 crore in fresh equity. NIRL, with its current 1.4 GW capacity, aims to reach 10 GW by 2030 and 32 GW by

2047, contributing to India's broader target of 500 GW non-fossil fuel energy capacity by 2030.

A Dual Strategy for Inclusive Growth and Sustainability

This package represents a dual-track development strategy. On one hand, PMDDKY addresses systemic issues in agriculture such as productivity, irrigation, and rural financing. On the other, the green energy investments reaffirm India's commitment to achieving its climate targets, especially as the country has already surpassed 50% of installed renewable capacity before its 2030 deadline.

Experts believe that if well-executed, these initiatives can generate employment in farm technology, logistics, clean energy construction, and green hydrogen, linking rural prosperity with sustainable development.

Implementation is Crucial

Effective execution remains the linchpin. For PMDDKY, success depends on efficient coordination among ministries, fast fund deployment, and district-level accountability. For NTPC and NLCIL, the focus will be on quick land acquisition, regulatory approvals, and grid connectivity. The government plans to launch PMDDKY by October, marking a significant step in aligning rural upliftment with climate goals. If implemented efficiently, this ₹50,000 crore package could redefine India's growth trajectory greener, more inclusive, and rooted in rural empowerment.

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EXPERT



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Q. Strength and Kindness: Why We  
Need Both?

**Ans.** Life's journey often presents strength and kindness as opposites—one firm, the other soft. But in reality, they are two sides of the same coin, each essential for living a balanced and meaningful life. Ancient Indian wisdom, especially Sanskrit Subhashitas and the Bhagavad Gita, reveals how these virtues are not only compatible but also deeply interconnected.

Strength is commonly linked with power, endurance, and resilience. It comes in many forms: physical stamina, emotional endurance, and mental toughness. The Bhagavad Gita illustrates this beautifully when Lord Krishna encourages Arjuna to carry out his duty with unwavering determination, detachment, and inner resolve. Here, strength is not about brute force but about inner discipline, mental clarity, and steadfastness in following dharma (righteousness).

True strength is demonstrated not just in victory, but in how we respond to defeat, challenges, and uncertainty. It lies in maintaining integrity under pressure, mastering our emotions, and persisting despite setbacks. It's about rising after every fall and staying calm when everything around seems chaotic.

Kindness, often misunderstood as weakness, is in fact a silent form of strength. It stems from compassion, empathy, and the willingness to act selflessly. Kindness shows up in simple gestures—a helping hand, a listening ear, or a comforting word. These small acts have the potential to heal emotional wounds, strengthen relationships, and foster mutual respect.

The Bhagavad Gita also highlights the values of ahimsa (non-violence) and karuna (compassion), which are foundational to kindness. Lord Krishna advises that genuine spiritual strength includes caring for others and avoiding harm. Kindness helps create supportive communities, reduces conflict, and promotes peace.

Though strength and kindness may appear contradictory, they are deeply dependent on each other. Strength without kindness can become rigid, arrogant, or even oppressive. It can lead to success, but often at the cost of empathy and relationships. Such strength may dominate but fail to inspire or connect.

Conversely, kindness without strength can leave one vulnerable. A kind person who lacks assertiveness may struggle to protect themselves or others when it matters. They might be easily manipulated or unable to set healthy boundaries, causing them harm in the long run.

The true essence of balanced living lies in blending strength with kindness. Strength enables us to face life's trials and stand firm in our values. Kindness, meanwhile, reminds us to remain compassionate and humane as we move forward. Together, they cultivate a life of purpose, courage, and connection.

In essence, strength gives us the courage to act, while kindness gives us the heart to act wisely. The fusion of the two nurtures not only personal growth but also creates a better world for those around us. Instead of choosing one over the other, we must strive to embody both—strong in action, kind in intention. Ancient Indian wisdom, as encapsulated in the Subhashitas (wise sayings), provides deep insights into the balance between strength and kindness. These texts emphasize the importance of both qualities and their complementary nature. Here are some key Subhashitas that shed light on this:

**1) On Strength and Compassion:** "बलं त्यागेण प्राप्तं स्वधर्मेण च रमणम् सपुत्रं सुखदं शान्तं योगेन स्थिरमात्मनम्॥" ("Strength is attained through selflessness and devotion to one's duty, and it is only through inner peace that one truly enjoys happiness.") — Manusmriti. This Subhashita suggests that true strength is achieved not through physical power or dominance but through adherence to one's duties and responsibilities. Moreover, it highlights the importance of inner peace and emotional control, which are essential for developing true strength. Kindness is the bedrock upon which this strength is built. Strength without kindness may lead to egotism and misery, but strength with compassion brings peace and contentment.

**2) On Balancing Power and Gentleness:** "उदारचरितं विना बलं रक्षसि दुष्कृतम् धर्मेणैव युजेत सत्त्वं विना धर्ममिहैपि॥" ("Without compassion, even power becomes a tool for cruelty; only righteousness and virtue can guide strength in the right direction.") — Bhagavad Gita. This Subhashita emphasizes that power and strength must be governed by righteousness (dharma) and compassion. Without these guiding principles, strength can easily turn into oppression. Strength, when combined with virtue and kindness, leads to the protection of righteousness and the welfare of others. This balance is essential for a just and harmonious life.

**3) On Kindness as a Form of Strength:** "सर्वे भवन्तु सुखिनः सर्वे सन्तु निरामयाः। सर्वे भद्राणि विप्राय, सर्वे मङ्गलमस्तु नः॥" ("May all beings be happy, may all beings be free from illness, may all beings see auspiciousness and may all beings experience peace.") — Buddhist Prayer.

This well-known verse encapsulates the essence of kindness. It reminds us that true strength lies in wishing well for all beings, irrespective of their status or background. By cultivating kindness, we not only enhance our own lives but also uplift others. This universal compassion is a powerful force, one that can unite humanity in the pursuit of peace and happiness.

In today's fast-paced world, the need for both strength and kindness is more pronounced than ever. In the workplace, for example, a leader who demonstrates strength in decision-making and problem-solving, while also showing kindness and empathy towards their employees, fosters a culture of trust, collaboration, and well-being. Such a leader is able to inspire others, build strong teams, and navigate challenges effectively while maintaining a supportive and positive environment.

On a personal level, individuals who combine strength with kindness tend to lead more fulfilling and meaningful lives. They are able to confront adversity with resilience, knowing that their inner strength will guide them through tough times. At the same time, their kindness enriches their relationships, fosters deep connections with others, and creates a sense of community. Both qualities enable personal growth, emotional stability, and a sense of purpose.

In conclusion, strength and kindness are not mutually exclusive but are two essential qualities that complement each other. Strength provides the resilience and courage needed to face life's challenges, while kindness nurtures relationships and fosters harmony. Together, they form the foundation of a balanced and meaningful life. As the ancient Subhashitas suggest, true strength is not about dominance or power, but about self-mastery, compassion, and adherence to righteousness. By cultivating both strength and kindness, we not only elevate ourselves but also contribute to the well-being of the world around us. Thus, both virtues are indispensable for a fulfilling and purposeful existence.

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KINDNESS BACKFIRED? NAVIGATING THE DARK SIDE OF BEING “TOO NICE”

Kindness is a virtue, we're told this since childhood. Be polite, be helpful, be good. But what happens when kindness becomes a trap? When being 'too nice' invites exploitation, exhaustion, or even erasure of your own needs?

This is the hidden struggle many young people face today navigating a world that praises kindness but often punishes it.

We romanticize selflessness the friend who's always available, the colleague who never says no, the student who takes on everyone's workload.

But beneath the surface, this habit of overextending can lead to burnout, resentment, and loss of identity. Kindness is beautiful, yes but when it's used as a currency for approval or fear of rejection, it stops being healthy.



In real life, 'too nice' often translates to 'easy to take advantage of.'

**You might:**

- Say yes when you mean no.
- Apologize for things that aren't your fault.
- Avoid confrontation even when something hurts you.

People may mistake your kindness for weakness. Or worse they may expect you to always be available, silently.

Constant people pleasing creates a deep inner conflict. You feel invisible in your own life, unheard in your own decisions.

**It may lead to:**

- Anxiety about disappointing others
- Guilt for setting boundaries
- Emotional exhaustion

Ironically, the effort to keep everyone happy often leaves **you** the unhappiest.

Here's the truth: Genuine kindness doesn't mean abandoning yourself. It includes self-respect, boundaries, and courage.

**You can be kind and still say:**

- “No, I can't take this on.”
- “I need time for myself.”
- “That doesn't feel right to me.”

Kindness that honors others and yourself is sustainable. It builds mutual respect, not silent suffering.

**This week, try this experiment:**

- Say 'no' to one thing that drains you.
- Do one act of kindness — for yourself.
- Write a boundary you're afraid to express and practice saying it.

Watch how your relationships shift when you show up honestly, not just helpfully.

Being kind is powerful, but being **too** nice at the cost of your own peace isn't compassion, it's self-erasure.

To the youth reading this: Your voice matters. Your needs matter. And real kindness begins with you.

Because you are the lab.  
And life is the experiment.

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WHO ARE YOU WITHOUT YOUR JOB TITLE?

“So, what do you do?”

It's one of the most common ice-breaker questions. And more often than not, our answer is mechanical: “I'm a student.” “I work at XYZ.” “I'm a CA, CS, CMA, CFA, Doctor, engineer, designer, intern, freelancer etc...”

But pause for a moment.

If your job, role, or academic tag were suddenly removed, who would you be?

In today's hyper-competitive world, especially for the youth, identity has become increasingly transactional. You're defined by what's written on your LinkedIn bio, the brand on your ID card, or the degree you're pursuing.

But your job title is not your personality. It's not your core. It's just a label, often given by someone else, based on your function.

**Ask yourself:**

- What drives you when no one is watching?
- What do you enjoy doing that doesn't need validation?
- Who are you when you're not “performing”?

writing poetry, listening to old songs, or helping someone quietly in the background — says more about you than your internship certificate ever will.

We live in an age where our value often feels measured in deliverables, followers, placements, or achievements. Young people, fresh into adulthood, are pushed to "become someone." But in this race to "become," we often forget to just be.

Job titles are temporary. They change. You may switch industries, careers, or even take breaks. But the real you, your principles, passions, creativity, empathy, and quirks stays with you

**This week, try this challenge:**

- Introduce yourself without mentioning your job, studies, or designation.
- Say things like:  
“I love finding beauty in small things.”  
“I enjoy collecting random facts.”



“I'm someone who finds peace in the mountains.”

You'll be surprised how meaningful and rare such conversations are.

When you anchor your identity only to a title, you're vulnerable. Rejections, layoffs, or breaks can feel like personal failures. But when you know your worth beyond that you become resilient. You're not your resume. You're a story in motion.

**So, who are you really?**

To the youth reading this:

The world may try to define you by what you do. But the deeper question is , who are you becoming?

Keep exploring. Because you are the lab. And life is the experiment.

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GOVERNMENT DEFENDS REVISED SULPHUR DIOXIDE EMISSION GUIDELINES



The government introduced a revised framework for thermal power plants to meet sulphur dioxide emission norms. As per studies conducted by different institutions such as NEERI, NIAS, and IIT Delhi, the analysis released by the Centre for Research on Energy and Clean Air (CREA) stated the inaction by thermal power plants across the country continues to delay the installation of flue gas desulphurization units to control the major air pollutant, SO<sub>2</sub> emissions. India established standards for Sulphur dioxide emissions from coal-based power plants in December 2015, requiring compliance within two years. However, despite multiple extensions, 92% of coal-fired power plants have not installed flue gas desulphurization units to control SO<sub>2</sub> emissions. This major air pollutant converts into fine particulate matter and causes a range of diseases. As per the guidelines issued on July 11, the Environment Ministry again extended the SO<sub>2</sub> compliance deadline for coal-based power plants in three categories. Category A includes plants located within a 10 km radius of the NCR region or cities with a population exceeding 1 million. Category B includes plants within a 10 km radius of critically polluted areas. Category C includes all other plants not covered under Categories A and B.

OMRON AND TRICOG HEALTH HAVE LAUNCHED KEEBOHEALTH TO TACKLE INDIA'S CARDIAC HEALTH CRISIS

KeeboHealth is a collaboration between the Japanese multinational corporation Omron and Tricog Health, an Indian AI-driven cardiac care company. Tricog Health is one of the world's largest healthcare AI companies, ensuring accurate and timely cardiac diagnosis that empowers healthcare providers to manage patients' heart conditions effectively and enable early treatment. Omron Healthcare, a Japanese multinational corporation, provides the widest range of home health equipment, including blood pressure monitors, thermometers, weight management devices, body composition monitors, and ECG monitors. The collaboration between Omron and Tricog Health “KeeboHealth”, primarily focuses on advancing the 'Going for Zero' vision – a world with zero cardiovascular events. “Going for Zero” vision of Omron represents the commitment towards eliminating heart problems and heart stroke crises through early detection, monitoring patients and extensive patient centric-care. Omron and Tricog Health plan to expand KeeboHealth across India in 2025, as both the organizations have extensive expertise in their fields, so they will provide cost-effective and highly personalized cures to tackle cardiac health problems with efficient equipment, along with detailed analysis of patients' situations. This initiative contributes to enhancing cardiac health and the well-being of communities throughout India.



KARNATAKA CM LAUNCHES NEW DIGILOCKER TECHNOLOGY FOR REGISTRATION OF NURSES

The Chief Minister of Karnataka launched a DigiLocker-based technology for the registration of nurses, developed by the Karnataka State Nursing Council. The system has been developed in collaboration with UIDAI, C-eG, Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, and the Karnataka State Nursing Examination Board. This new system is integrated with the KSNC app and is currently available only on the Google Play Store. Medical Education and Skill Development Minister, Dr. Sharanprakash R. Patil, stated that this is the first initiative of its kind in the country, and with this, the issuance of registration will take place through Aadhaar-based DigiLocker eKYC. According to Patil, the Karnataka State Nursing Council can now directly retrieve data and personal information to proceed with the registration of nurses. Previously, nurses had to come to the council office and wait in long queues for their registration certificates. Under this new registration process, students can directly fetch their certificates from DigiLocker after completing the 11-step process. It is a huge initiative to improve the healthcare sector in India and the problems students face while getting offline registration certificates from the council office. This new technology will resolve all of these issues.



FASHION ENTREPRENEUR SHARDA NARAYANAN BECAME THE FIRST INDIAN TO WIN A GLOBAL TITLE

Fashion entrepreneur Sharda Narayanan became the first Indian contestant to win the Mrs. Classique Globe Choice of the People title. She was completely mesmerized and took a minute to process that her name had been announced as the winning contestant. She dedicates her success to her mentor, Veena Jain, who helped her at every step of her journey. While winning among 50 contestants from across the world was surprising for Sharda Narayanan, her mentor Veena Jain, Mrs India Globe Classique 2017 was completely confident in her elegance and hard work. Veena Jain says, “I am especially proud because this is the first time an Indian delegate has won such an honour.” Fashion entrepreneur Narayanan, who runs her boutique named Metamorphosis and is also a mother, has years of experience working with top corporate companies. She is actively involved with Vidya Trust and other NGOs that empower women by teaching them tailoring skills and hosting bazaars to showcase their work. You come out carrying your country's flag, which brings with it a lot of pride, but you also have a responsibility to ensure that you don't let your country down, and make sure you are doing your best,” she says.



RESEARCHERS SET UP TO STUDY SEEDS THAT WERE SENT TO SPACE



Researchers of Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology gear up to Study Effect of Microgravity Conditions on Seeds that were Sent to Space during the Mission Axiom-4. Seeds of Jyoti and Uma rice varieties, Kanakamani (horse gram) Vellayani Vijay (tomato), Thilakathara (sesame), and Soorya (brinjal/eggplant) were sent to the International Space Station under the “Crop Seeds on International Space Station” project, spearheaded by the Space Biology Lab of the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology. On Tuesday, July 15, the AXIOM-4 mission team returned home led by Captain Subhanshu Shukla. The Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology is preparing to carry out post-mission field studies involving the crop seeds that were flown on the hallmark mission to research the effects of microgravity on them. The post-return samples will be tested to study the effects of microgravity on growth and yield parameters, and how these effects are manifested in plant development. The Crop Field on ISS project was the result of multi-level collaboration and multiple memorandum of understanding between ISRO, the European Space Agency, ISRO's Human Space Flight Centre, the Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (IIST), and Kerala Agricultural University (KAU).

TAIWAN'S CTBC BANK OFFICIALLY APPLIED TO SET UP IBU IN INDIA'S FINANCIAL HUB, GIFT CITY

The largest privately owned bank in Taiwan has applied to India's International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) to set up an International Financial Services Centre Banking Unit in GIFT City, Gujarat. This move strengthens financial ties between India and Taiwan and provides a more international banking system in GIFT City. The Taiwanese bank is following a similar move made by banks from France and the UAE in the recent past. In its application to the International Financial Services Centres Authority, the Taiwanese bank has proposed to acquire 3,100 square feet of land near the bridge tower located in GIFT SEZ area. The first branch of Taiwan's CTBC Bank was established in New Delhi in 1996. Taiwan's Financial Supervisory Commission gave formal permission to CTBC Bank to apply for a branch in GIFT City in January 2025. This expresses Taiwan's strong support for its financial firms to explore more opportunities and growth in India. The rising interest of global institutions in setting up in India's GIFT city is due to its position as a global financial and technology hub. It has key infrastructure and aims to be a “smart city” for the nation's finance and technology sectors.



Afreen Mazgaonkar & Roshni Kumari

VAIBHAV SURYAVANSHI MAKES BOWLING HISTORY  
IN U19 YOUTH TEST



The 14-year-old cricketer, Vaibhav Suryavanshi, kept on keeping up with the demands of the occasion by becoming the youngest Indian to take a wicket in Youth Test match on July 13, 2025 in the India U19 vs England U19 at the Kent County Cricket Ground, Beckenham. He dismissed England captain Hamza Shaikh and then Thomas Rew, finishing with impressive bowling figures of 2/35 in 12 overs. Suryavanshi was already known, earlier in the match for his explosive batting, and then he added to this growing profile with the bat, smashing a quickfire 56 runs off only 44 balls in India's second inning, with nine fours and a six, while getting India's lead up to 229 runs. Suryavanshi had also contributed 14 runs off 13 balls in India first-inning. Earlier this year, he made history as the youngest centurion in IPL history with a 101 off 38 balls for the Rajasthan Royals. The international attention on him

for all-around contribution has tagged him as one of India's most exciting young cricket talents. Of course, with his ability to change the game whether with the bat or ball, Vaibhav Suryavanshi is certainly starting to develop into a burgeoning superstar and potential future pillar of Indian cricket over the next few years.

DEEPIKA CREATES HISTORY, BECOMES FIRST INDIAN TO  
WIN POLIGRAS MAGIC SKILL AWARD

Deepika has created the historic moment in hockey by becoming the first Indian player to win the prestigious Poligras Magic skills Award. This was organised for the players who featured exceptional creativity , flair , and technical brilliance on the hockey field. Deepika's outstanding performance and command over the ball have not only absorbed Indian but she also attracted the global hockey community. She earned this with her sharp movement , dribbles , dazzling and intelligent plays. This accomplishment represents an important milestone in Indian hockey and showcases the great talent coming out of the country's women's team. Deepika's skill set is a product of her dedication, commitment, years of hard work and passion for the sport. Her ability to produce splendid moments on the field makes her the ideal awardee for this one-of-a-kind recognition. The award is a celebration of those unique moments in a match where a player's skills truly shines — and Deepika made it clear to herself that to be a champion of such magic. The achievement she made is not a proud moment only for her but for the entire nation. This inspires every women hockey team from India to believe in their dreams and pursue excellence. Deepika placed India firmly on the global hockey map and not only showcased her individual mettle.



KRISHVI ARORA & TRIJAL VOHRA SHINE WITH DOUBLE  
TITLES AT PUNJAB STATE RANKING TT EVENT

In a breathtaking event of skills and consistency , Krishvi Arora and Trijal Vohra appeared as the star of the first Punjab state ranking table tennis tournament, which was held in sector - 23 Table Tennis Hall in Chandigarh. Both players secured the double titles, winning in their respective Under- 15 and Under – 17. Krishvi Arora showed her bravery by defeating Aruhi Thakur of Abohar in the U–15 girls final with a score of 11–8, 5–11, 11-8, 11–6. She continued her achievements by defeating Jasmine 3–0 in the girls U–17 final. Showcasing her excellent coordination and consistent playing in the tournament. Trijal won the U-15 boys final beating Soham Soni 11-2, 11-9, 12-10. He overcame a tough U-17 final beating Rehaan Puri 3-2 thrilling match. Aryan Sachdeva (Ludhiana) beat Trijal 3-0, while Gulshee Kaur (Patiala) won Krishvi also 3-0 in the U-19 finals. The tournament is conducted by the Punjab state Table Tennis Association. The tournament drew participation from the best and talented players across the state and marked a successful beginning to the state's ranking series.



RONIT KARKI BRIGHTEST AT WIMBLEDON 2025 – RISING  
STAR IN JUNIOR TENNIS

Indian – American Tennis Marvel Ronit Karki has attracted international recognition with his exceptional performance at the Wimbledon 2025 junior boys 'championship'. Although he did not achieve the title on Sunday, the 17 years old's journey to the final round of the tournament has been nothing short of inspiring. Over the past two weeks, Ronit reflected impressive skills and determination, advancing through the qualifying rounds and climbing step by step to the final challenges. His powerful game, quick footwork, and mental toughness earned him a spot in the finals , an achievement that has placed him firmly in the spotlight. When the match was in the grand final stage it made clear that it was unfavorable for him. Ronit proved that he is this rising talent in global tennis in each performance. In the prestigious tournament, his run signals the emergence of the future champion. Many in the tennis World are now keeping a close eye on his career. With his energy, sportsmanship and commitment Ronit revealed himself as a name of remembrance in the coming year of professional tennis



AMINESH KUJUR SCRIPTS HISTORY AT MONACO DIAMOND  
LEAGUE, GOUT GOUT CLINCHED GOLD



Aminesh Kujur from India has created history by taking part in the Diamond League for the first time. He made India proud moments after completing fourth in his 200 m at Monaco in an Under 23 category. By 20.55 seconds of clicking, Kujur held his own among a High performance field. Almost missing the victory stand by just 0.13 seconds. The race was dominated by Australian teen sensation Gout Gout, who secured the gold with a time of 20.10, followed by Botswana's Busang Collen Kebinatship by 20.28 seconds and Africa's Naeem Jack by 20.42 seconds. After facing a strong headwind 1.9 m/s, Kujur's performance was clouded for its intensity and promise. His run came shortly after he broke the Indian National records in both 100m (10.18 s) and 200m (20.32 s) earlier this year. He got special training through international coaches from Switzerland. Kujur has easily become the face of Indian Sprinting. Martin Owens, coach of Kujur, believes that the potential to qualify for the world championship in Tokyo later this year. He also displayed Indian growing strength in the relay event. Animesh stayed focused on further lowering his time and inspiring a new generation of India sprinters with more European races lined up in Lucerne and Geneva.

HARIKRISHNAN A RA BECOMES INDIA'S 87TH  
GRANDMASTER

India celebrates the arrival of the 87th GrandMaster. As A Ra Harikrishnan, a 23 years old chess virtuoso from Chennai, secured his final GM norm at the LA Plagni International chess Festival in France. Just three months ago, Harikrishnan made a pledge to his coach Shyam Sundar that he would return from Europe as a GrandMaster. He kept that pledge in an unforgettable way , on Friday. Harikrishnan not only became the 87th GrandMaster of India but also the 32nd from Tamil Nadu, A state known for presenting some of the finest chess players in the country. The title GM was not sudden for Harikrishnan's journey. His breakout moment came in July 2023 at the Biel International Chess Festival. He continued building his monument, archiving his second norm at the Andujar open in Spain in June. The final step came with his third and decisive GM norm in France, meeting all the required criteria set by FIDE. With this success, Harikrishnan joins an elite of Indian chess masters who are taking the country's legacy forward on the international stage, his discipline, constituency and passions are a true inspiration for upcoming players. As Indian chess continues to rise. Harikrishnan's achievement is a recollection with his dedication and faith, even the most ambitious dreams can be turned into reality.



SIDBI OFFICER RECRUITMENT  
2025 – APPLY NOW FOR 76  
GRADE 'A' & 'B' OFFICER  
POSTS



The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has released the SIDBI Officer Recruitment 2025 notification for 76 vacancies across Grade 'A' (Assistant Manager) and Grade 'B' (Manager) posts in General, Legal & IT streams. This is a golden opportunity for experienced professionals to join a prestigious development finance institution powering India's MSME sector.

- SIDBI Officer Vacancy 2025 Details:**
- Post Vacancies Assistant Manager Grade 'A' (General) - 50, Manager Grade 'B' (General) - 11, Manager Grade 'B' (Legal) - 08, Manager Grade 'B' (IT) - 07, Total Posts: 76
  - Job Location: Pan India
  - Apply Online: 14 July – 11 August 2025
  - [Apply at: www.sidbi.in](http://www.sidbi.in)

**Eligibility Criteria:**  
Grade 'A': 21–30 years | Grade 'B': 25–33 years (Relaxation as per norms)

- Qualification:**
- Grade 'A': Graduation in Commerce, Eco, Stats, Engg., CS, CA, ICWA, MBA, PGDM + 2 yrs exp.
  - Grade 'B' (General): Any Grad/Postgrad + 5 yrs exp.
  - Grade 'B' (Legal): Law Degree + Bar Enrolment + 5 yrs exp.
  - Grade 'B' (IT): B.E/B.Tech/MCA (CS/IT/EC) + 5 yrs exp.

**Selection Process:**

1. Phase I Online Exam
2. Phase II Online Exam
3. Interview

- Pay Scale:**
- Grade 'A': ₹44,500 – ₹89,150 (~₹1 Lakh/month)
  - Grade 'B': ₹55,200 – ₹99,750 (~₹1.15 Lakh/month)

- Application Fee:**
- Gen/OBC/EWS: ₹1100
  - SC/ST/PwBD: ₹175
  - SIDBI Staff: Nil

- Dates:**
- Phase I: 06 Sept 2025
  - Phase II: 04 Oct 2025
  - Interview: Nov 2025

For more details, candidates can refer to the official notification.

IB ACIO RECRUITMENT 2025 – 3717 VACANCIES FOR GRADUATES

The Intelligence Bureau (IB), under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), has announced a massive recruitment drive for 3717 posts of Assistant Central Intelligence Officer (ACIO) Grade-II/Executive. This Group 'C', Non-Gazetted, Non-Ministerial post offers an excellent opportunity for graduates to serve in one of India's most prestigious intelligence agencies.

- Post Details:**
- Post Name: ACIO Grade-II/Executive
  - Total Vacancies: 3717
  - UR: 1537 | EWS: 442 | OBC: 946 | SC: 566 | ST: 226
  - Pay Scale: Level 7 – ₹44,900 to ₹1,42,400 + allowances

- Eligibility Criteria (as on 10/08/2025):**
- Age: 18 to 27 years (Relaxation: 5 yrs for SC/ST, 3 yrs for OBC)
  - Qualification: Bachelor's degree from a recognized university
  - Other Requirement: Basic computer knowledge

- Selection Process:**
1. Tier I: Objective-Type Written Exam
  2. Tier II: Descriptive Paper (Essay, Precis, Comprehension)

3. Tier III: Personal Interview

**Application Fee:**  
Category Fee All Candidates (Processing Fee) ₹ 550 / -  
UR / OBC / EWS Males ₹650/- (₹550 + ₹100) SC/ST/Female ₹550/- (Processing only)

**Mode:** Online (Cards/Net Banking) or SBI Challan (Offline)

- Important Dates:**
- Short Notification Released: 14 July 2025
  - Online Application Starts: 19 July 2025
  - Last Date to Apply: 10 August 2025 (11:59 PM)

Apply Online @ [www.mha.gov.in](http://www.mha.gov.in)

- How to Apply:**
- Register on the MHA portal using name, DOB,



- mobile & email
- Log in to fill the form and upload required documents
- Pay the fee and submit your application
- Take a printout for future reference

For more details, candidates can refer to the official notification.

AIIMS CRE RECRUITMENT 2025 – APPLY ONLINE FOR 3501 GROUP B & C POSTS

The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, invites applications for the AIIMS CRE 2025 to fill 3501 non-faculty vacancies (Group B & C) across multiple AIIMS branches and central government hospitals.

- Top Vacancies Include:**
- UDC / Senior Administrative Assistant: 702
  - Junior Medical Lab Technologist: 371
  - Pharmacist Grade II & Allopathic: 311
  - Stenographer: 221
  - Medical Record Technician, ECG Technician, Optometrist, Office Assistants, Engineers, MTS & more

- Key Details:**
- Total Posts: 3501
  - Pay Scale: Level 3 to Level 5 (7th CPC)
  - Age Limit: 18–35 years (varies by post) (Relaxation: SC/ST – 5 yrs, OBC – 3 yrs, PwD – 10 yrs)
  - Qualification: 10th, 12th, ITI, Diploma, Graduation, B.Sc, B.Tech, DMLT, BMLT, BPT, B.Pharm, MCA, M.Sc, etc.

- Selection Process:**
1. CBT (Computer Based Test): 100 MCQs, 400 marks, 90 mins, negative marking of ¼ mark.
  2. Skill Test: Applicable for posts like Steno, Clerk, Technician.



3. Document Verification

- Application Fee:**
- Gen/OBC: ₹3000
  - SC/ST/EWS: ₹2400
  - PwD: Exempted (Separate fee for each group applied)

- How to Apply:**
1. Visit [www.aiimsexams.ac.in](http://www.aiimsexams.ac.in)
  2. Select “AIIMS CRE 2025” → Register → Login

3. Fill details → Upload photo, signature, documents
4. Pay fee online → Submit → Print confirmation

- Important Dates:**
- Apply Online: 12/07/2025 to 31/07/2025 (5:00 PM)
  - Application Status: 07/08/2025
  - CBT Exam: 25–26 August 2025 (Tentative)

For more details, candidates can refer to the official notification.



- 1) When was World Leprosy Day celebrated?
- 2) Who among the following has been appointed as the Director of the Liquid?
- 3) Who has been awarded the ICC Men's Test Cricket of the Year 2024?
- 4) Polavaram Multipurpose Project, which was seen in the news, is located in which state?
- 5) What is the name of the first printed book in the world?
- 6) Which bank becomes the first Indian bank to implement Clari5's NCRP Integration Solution?
- 7) Who wrote the play "Hamlet"?
- 8) Who invented the telephone?
- 9) On which date is World Population Day observed every year?
- 10) What is the name of the first artificial satellite to orbit the Earth? Sputnik 1.



- 1) I am full of holes but still hold water. What am I?
- 2) Two in a corner, one in a room, zero in a house, but one in a shelter. What am I?
- 3) Poor people have it. Rich people need it. If you eat it you die. What is it?
- 4) What starts with a T, ends with a T, and has T in it?
- 5) No matter how little or how much you use me, you change me every month. What am I?
- 6) I turn once, what is out will not get in. I turn again, what is in will not get out. What am I?
- 7) I can bring back the dead, make you weep, make you smile, and take you to faraway places, all without moving. What am I?
- 8) I have cities, but no houses. I have mountains, but no trees. I have water, but no fish. What am I?

- ANSWERS
- 1) QUIZ TIME
- 2) The letter "R."
- 3) Nothing
- 4) A teapot
- 5) A calendar
- 6) A Key
- 7) A Memory
- 8) A Map
- 1) SPONGE
- 2) THE LETTER "R."
- 3) NOTHING
- 4) A TEAPOT
- 5) A CALENDAR
- 6) A KEY
- 7) A MEMORY
- 8) A MAP
- 1) SPONGE
- 2) THE LETTER "R."
- 3) NOTHING
- 4) A TEAPOT
- 5) A CALENDAR
- 6) A KEY
- 7) A MEMORY
- 8) A MAP



## PITHLA BHAKRI BLISS – RUSTIC, SPICY, SOULFUL

This Week, We're Serving Pithla Bhakri Harmony – Maharashtra's Rustic Hug on a Plate

**P**ithla Bhakri Harmony, the humble yet hearty soul food of Maharashtra, is a spicy gram flour curry paired with earthy bhakri made from jowar or bajra. Simmered with garlic, green chilies, and tempered spices, pithla brings warmth and nostalgia, while bhakri grounds you with every wholesome bite.

### Ingredients:

**Pithla (Spiced Gram Flour Curry):** Besan (1 cup), Onion (1, chopped), Garlic (4–5 cloves, crushed), Green chilies (2, chopped), Mustard seeds (½ tsp), Cumin (½ tsp), Hing (a pinch), Turmeric (½ tsp), Salt to taste, Curry leaves (5–6), Coriander (for garnish), Oil (2 tbsp), Water (~2½ cups)

**Bhakri (Flatbread):** Jowar or Bajra flour (1 cup), Salt (a pinch) & Hot water (to knead)

### Steps:

1. **Make Bhakri Dough:** Knead flour with hot water and salt into a soft dough. Pat by hand into a round flatbread.
2. **Cook Bhakri:** Roast on hot tawa, pressing gently. Roast directly on flame for puffing if desired.
3. **Prepare Besan Slurry:** Mix besan with water, turmeric, and salt. Keep aside.
4. **Temper & Sauté:** Heat oil, add mustard, cumin, hing, garlic, chilies, and curry leaves. Add onions and sauté till soft.
5. **Simmer Pithla:** Add besan slurry to the pan. Cook on low, stirring constantly, until thick and aromatic.
6. **Garnish & Serve:** Top with fresh coriander. Serve hot with bhakri, raw onion, and green chilies.

This dish is pure comfort, best enjoyed with your hands, your heart, and a side of quiet countryside joy.



### Introducing Our New Column

## ARTWORK OF THE WEEK

We invite all young artists to showcase their talent in our weekly e-newspaper, The HULAHUL Times. Submit your hand-drawn artwork to be featured!

CRITERIA	SUBMISSION DETAILS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Age Limit: Up to 24 years</li><li>• Artwork Size: A4</li><li>• Format: Hand-drawn only</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Email your artwork to: thehulahultimes@gmail.com</li><li>• Subject Line: ARTWORK</li><li>• Include: Your Name, Age, School/College Name, and Phone Number</li></ul>
<b>CONTACT INFORMATION</b>	<b>Phone</b> +91-7977005423 <b>Email</b> thehulahultimes@gmail.com

To place an Advertisement please call on +91- 8433608140

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