



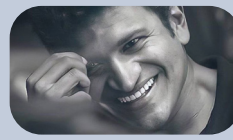
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Karnataka celebrates 66th Rajyotsava

Nanditha S Kumar

November 1, 2021 marked the 66th Kannada Rajyotsava which was observed in Udupi by the District Administration. Karnataka government presented the Rajyotsava Awards on this auspicious day. The awards were received by people from different walks of life. Kannada and Cultural Minister, V.Sunil Kumar, on the occasion, felicitated 35 people and honoured them with the district 'Zilla Rajyotsava' award at the district Mahatma Gandhi stadium. The day was celebrated by several pro-Kannada organizations, institutions, and educational institutions in a remarkable manner. The organizations selected for the award are South Canara

Association, Udupi, Shantiniketan Yuva Vrinda, Kudibail-kucchur, Hebri taluk, and Make Some1 Smile. The list of 35 awardees includes Gangadar Kadekar (Sports), Ganesh Panjimar (Art), Dr. Parampalli Chandrashekhar (Medicine), Dr. Shashikiran Umakanth (Medicine), Gurucharan Polipu (Folk), Akshatha Devadiga (Art), Subhashchandra Wagle (Media), Shivananda Tallur Kundapur (Social Work). "This time, instead of selecting people through the applications submitted by the citizens, we searched for achievers all over the state ourselves" said Sunil Kumar while addressing the crowd. He added, "The youth of today must work towards making an even better place for Kannada in the state".



Kannada and Cultural Minister, V. Sunil Kumar offering prayers

The Foundation Day of a state is the day that commemorates the formation of the state. November 1, 1973, during the tenure of Chief Minister Devaraj Arasu, the state was given the name Karnataka derived from the Kannada word "Karunadu" which means 'lofty land'.

Every year, Karnataka Rajyotsava is celebrated with great pomp and show by Kannadigas and the day is an official holiday for the state. Karnataka's red and yellow flag is hoisted in every nook and corner to celebrate the foundation day. Apart from hoisting the state flag,

the state anthem 'Jaya Bharata Jananiya Tanujate' is also sung to reminisce about the formation of Karnataka. With a population of 68.4 million, Karnataka is one of India's largest states known for its diversities in terms of culture, tradition, nature, beaches, and wildlife.

Psychological pressure increases suicides during Pandemic

Sai Likhita

During initial lockdowns, studies show that, there was an increase in the psychological pressure faced by the human race by about 20%. Psychological stress and depression have, reportedly, affected the senior citizens and teachers more than the rest. Two senior citizens and three teachers have committed suicide in the span of 15 days. Psychiatrist, Dr P.V Bhandari stated that inactiveness and loneliness during this course of time led them to such drastic steps. One of the few reasons, as per studies, for the increasing number of suicides is less income. Dr Bhandari also mentioned about copycat suicide cases

and media showcasing irresponsible reporting of the facts being few more of the reasons. There are other reasons like poverty, loneliness, uncertain future, instability, love failure which, also lead to the committing of suicide. In September 2021, a total of 28 suicide cases were reported. There have also been such cases reported in the group of literates. In the last 9 months, there have been 312 cases reported. According to official sources, 371 people have committed suicide in 2020 and 368 in 2019. The suicide rate per day from 2019 to 2020 was one, but in 2021, the suicide rate per day has

increased to more than two. Dr Bhandari stated that the government is taking necessary actions to make people aware about the existence of psychological pressure and provide help to the people suffering from it. Deputy commissioner, Kumar Rao asked the Government to strengthen the support system at various levels. Counselling sessions will take place at all levels in schools and colleges. "There is a cell solely dedicated to deal with mental health issues. The cell's effectiveness will be increased in the future by implementing a comprehensive awareness program. There is a helpline, and a Yuva Spandana cell

(155265) at the district level to assist youths, particularly college students, through counselling", he said. DHO, Dr Naga Bhushan said that they were taking active measures in PHC and CHC regarding psychological and suicide cases. "Counselling sessions are being conducted regularly to help detect symptoms of depression among people, and take necessary steps. Under a public-private partnership, tele psychiatric services are made available in Kandlur and Byndoor. Special sessions on mental awareness are being held Sai Likhita in Shankrapura and Brahmavara, and the program will be expanded to re



Source: WDRfree

-mote areas such as Siddhapura, Mala, and Hosmer. The toll-free number of NIMHANS (080 - 4611 0007) will be popularized. The psychiatrist's appointment under NHM will be asked to pay regular visits to CHCs, PHCs, and taluk and district government hospitals", he added.

Kannada actor Puneeth Rajkumar dies at 46

Alka P Lewis

Puneeth Rajkumar (46), Kannada actor and philanthropist, passed away on Friday October 29, 2021 after suffering a cardiac arrest. The incident took place early in the morning when he complained of chest pain during his routine workout. He was rushed to Vikram Hospital in Bengaluru and was immediately shifted to the ICU at 11:30 in the morning after being inspected by a group of doctors who stated that he was unresponsive and was in Cardiac Asystole. "At the time of arrival to the emergency, Mr. Puneeth Rajkumar was non-responsive and was in cardiac asystole. Hence, immediate advanced cardiac life support measures were initiated for



Late actor Puneeth Rajkumar. Source: thenewsminute.com

resuscitation," the hospital said in a statement. Despite of experiencing chest pain during his workout, he continued to exercise in pain, which resulted in a massive heart stroke. Although it wasn't confirmed by the medical practitioners, this is seen to be one of reasons for the sudden stroke.

Puneeth Rajkumar who was the son of a legendary Kannada actor, Dr Rajkumar, was known for his warm personality. He had donated 50 lakh rupees to the government of Karnataka to help deal with the covid crisis along with which he also took part in several

philanthropic activities without making them public. He was supporting 16 old age homes, 26 orphanages and 19 goshalas. Following his father's footsteps, his eyes too, were donated after his death. Besides being a brilliant actor, he had made large contributions to social causes and was known to be 'A man with a golden heart.' His death came as a shock to the world of Indian cinema. The Karnataka government shut down all theatres and bars till October 31 as a tribute to the legend.

Large number of fans arrived to pay tribute to the late super star at Sree Kanteerava stadium in Bengaluru on October 30, 2021. Controlling the massive crowd was a difficult

task for the police as they had to be mindful about all the covid protocols.

The large gathering led to the blockage of Vittal Malya Road due to which police had to divert the vehicles through Kasturba Road. Chief Minister, Basavaraj Bommai, announced that the final rites of the late actor would take place on Sunday, October 31, 2021 at Sree Kanteerava Stadium. He was wrapped in the tricolor and was kept in the stadium for his family and fans to pay their last tributes before the rites took place. The late superstar is survived by Ashwini Revanth (wife), Drithi and Vanditha (daughters).

Source: Indian Express

BBMP awarded for developing lakes



The rejuvenated Sarakki Lake in JP Nagar, Bengaluru. Source: The Hindu

Alka P Lewis

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) received the Earth Day Network's 'Star Municipal Award' for developing 18 lakes and planning seven more in Kothanpur, Siddapura, Basavanapura and Thalaghattapura. The award was given to the BBMP Chief Commissioner, Gaurav Gupta by Neela Majumdar,

member of the Earth Day Network, who stated that the Earth Day Network was proud of BBMP for rejuvenating the lakes and lending a hand to protect the biodiversity.

Usha Rajgopalan, a member from the Putthenahalli neighbourhood lake improvement trust, who worked with BBMP for the development of the

Putthenahalli lake, nominated BBMP for the award.

On receiving the award, Gaurav Gupta, Chief Commissioner BBMP, stated that all the work done by the BBMP was taken up scientifically and this award would motivate the officials of the civic body to initiate more

Source: Hindustan Times

From mountain ranges to the sea

Nanditha S Kumar

Shikaradinda Sagara, an all-women expedition team had set out on their journey of mountain climbing in the Himalayan ranges, cycled over 3,300km, and also experienced a 300km kayaking. The expedition was commenced on August 16, 2021. The inauguration was executed by the Youth Services and Sports Minister K.C. Narayana Gowda.

The team comprising of five women; V.Aishwarya, Dhanalakshmi, Asha, Pushpa, and Bindu were welcomed by Udupi Zilla Panchayat Chief Executive Officer Y. Naveen Bhat. He appreciated the initiative put forward by the team which would ingrain confidence and assurance in the general public and women in particular. The team climbed Mount Kolahoi in Jammu and Kashmir which began the expedition. They later cycled for a distance of 3,350km before entering Karwar. Later on, they kayaked 300km



Zilla Panchayat Chief Executive Officer, Y Naveen Bhat welcoming the team. Source: The Hindu

of Karnataka coastline to reach the Ullal coast in Mangaluru. By reaching the last destination these members from varied SC/ST hostels of the state completed their 75-day long quest on Monday evening.

The event was organized by the Indian Mountaineering Association's southern zone and General Thimmayya National Academy of Adventure.

The team was welcomed back by Srinivas Poojary, Minister for Social Service Kota at the Ullal Beach, and said that the team members would be shortly called for felicitation by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai.

Source: The Hindu

Blood is life, pass it on

Nanditha S Kumar

The Rotaract Club of Manipal and Kasturba Medical College (a constituent hospital of M.A.H.E.) organized a blood donation campaign on October 31, 2021. It took place in the Food Court 1, ground floor. More than one hundred and sixty people donated blood and the process went on for over six and a half hours. The campaign had seven steps in total, starting from registration to the confirmation of the blood group. Before the donation, the donors underwent a counselling session. The director of



A volunteer at the campaign. Image source : The Rotaract Club

MIT Manipal, Cdr. Dr Anil Rana, too, was among the many to be a part of this campaign. The process went smoothly with mass and active participation of donors. The campaign started at 8:30

AM and went on till 2 PM having donors strictly adhered to the covid protocols. During and after the pandemic, medical professionals saw a massive shortage of blood

supply in blood banks, and to support the cause, the Rotaract Club of Manipal organized this Blood Donation Campaign. With combined efforts, this event was a huge success. Blood donation is one of the noble procedures

done by human beings. The necessity for blood donation is increasing day by day. Blood is an important aid for planned treatments and urgent medical emergencies. The availability of the right person back to life. Just as the recipient the donor is also benefitted through making the donations as it improves the heart health, fitness, and also a healthier immune system would be formulated.

Source: The Rotaract Club, Manipal

MAHE unveils 5th edition of Flagship Marathon

Sai Likhita

Manipal: 26th October, 2021- Manipal Academy of Higher Education in association with Udupi district Amateur Athletic Association has decided to hold the 5th edition of Manipal Marathon that is MM 2022, on 13th February 2022. The announcement was made in the pre-event press conference today MAHE's University building in the presence of Shri. Raghupathi Bhat, MLA of Udupi and President - Udupi district Amateur Athletic Association and Dr H S Ballal, Pro-Chancellor, MAHE, Dr Narayana Sabhahit, Registrar of MAHE, Mr. SP Kar, Director, PR, Media & Social Media Cell, MAHE along with Dr Vinod Nayak, Secretary, Sports Council, MAHE. During the marathon, all COVID protocols and majors will be in place as defined by Government and various Regulators, will be strictly implemented.

Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) will give all the facilities to enhance the student's abilities. We give a lot of importance to academic activities. Students should make sure that they focus on their studies and participate in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities. It will help in the overall development of personality. MAHE has a large indoor stadium to keep pupils fit and active. We at MAHE believe that physical and mental fitness should go hand in hand.

Dr. H S Ballal, Pro-chancellor, MAHE said "Running is an excellent approach to improve both your physical and emotional wellbeing. It benefits almost every part of your health, gives a stress-relieving outlet, and boosts your mood and general enjoyment. We are excited to bring back our legacy Manipal Marathon in 2022

keeping all Covid protocol in mind". MAHE along with Udupi District Amateur Athletic Association is excited to bring the Marathon season back to the district, which was gravely missed last year due to the pandemic. We strongly feel that physical activity is a must to keep immunity in check and we are gearing up for this mega event.

Sri K Raghupathi Bhat, MLA, Udupi, who was present at the press meet who believes that "The marathon is organized in order to support fitness movement, a call given by Prime Minister Modi 'Fit India'. It is advised to exercise for at least half an hour to keep our body and mind healthy. Udupi District Amateur Athletic Association and MAHE have together been part of Manipal Marathon from decades and we continue this journey with MM 2022. I wholeheartedly



Participants of the Marathon in Kamath Circle. Source: Swaroop Diddi

urge the people of the district to take part in this event and stay fit always."

Dr. Narayana Sabhahit, Registrar, MAHE said "Running is not only beneficial for your health, but it is also a tremendous physical exercise that may help you meet new people and form strong relationships. Running is also a good approach to set and then achieve goals. If you're looking for some direction in your life, now is the time to put on your running shoes and get to work. We are happy to announce the 5th edition of the Manipal Marathon scheduled for February 2022. We at MAHE are taking all the necessary precautions and adhering to the government guidelines for Covid-19".

The conference was moderated by SP Kar, Director, PR, Media & Social Media Cell, MAHE, along with Dr Vinod Nayak, Secretary, MAHE Sports Council who further shares "At MAHE we believe in all-round development. Our flagship marathon event is an example of our belief. In this event, he showcased how MAHE is planning to conduct MAHE's 5th edition of Manipal Marathon 2022 scheduled for 13th February 2022 keeping COVID protocols and guidelines at its core" The Press Meet was attended by Col Prakash Chandra, Director (General Services), MAHE, Dr Shobha Erappa, Joint Secretary, Sports Council - MAHE, along with other dignitaries.

Covid 19 - other side of the coin

Ishaan Arunabh

After twelve months into the pandemic, its immediate and lasting impacts on the climate system and fossil fuel economy are now better understood. These insights will be fundamental to the global recovery and the ideally green transitions that accompany it but implementation will be hard-won.

11th March marks a year since Covid-19 was classified as a pandemic by (WHO) World Health Organisation. In addition to the large toll it has taken on human lives, the measures that has been taken to curb the spread of the virus has caused a seismic shift for many in how we live, work, travel and interact. The changes caused a decline in anthropogenic emissions

and subsequent speculation of what this might mean for short and long-term climate impacts. We think it is therefore a fitting time to reflect on what has re-joined this past year on the climate impacts of Covid-19 safety measures and to highlight research, including several pieces in this month's issue. This gives insight on what is to come.

Last May it was reported by the authorities that the CO2 emissions had decreased about seventeen percent by early April 2020 compared to 2019 as some of the first lockdowns underway in major economies. In absolute emissions, these numbers are dominated by declined in the surface transport, power and industry sectors, through aviation

exhibited the largest fractional emissions decrease. Beyond CO2 emission, Covid-19 is resulting in changes in individual behaviour and social attitudes and in response by the governments that will have impacts on the environment and the ability to combat climate changes.

The European Commission has put forth the largest stimulus plan economic recovery plan with the Goal for the EU to Carbon Neutral by 2050. It includes financing for renewable energy, electric vehicle charging and other emissions-friendly projects, including retrofitting old buildings and developing no-carbon fuels like hydrogen. The stimulus plan still needs to be approved by

the EU's 27 member states.

To the extent that Europe takes moves, that will make it more attractive for other countries to act," said Scott Barrett, vice dean at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. "But I don't think example is enough. I think what's more powerful would be not only their demonstration that it can be done, but a change in the economic calculus—because technology's changed, because systems are interconnected, and because when Europe did it, it actually became more economic and easier, and possibly necessary for others to do it. If they [EU] are able to lower the cost of alternative energy sources, then those actions would actually make other

countries be more inclined to use those alternatives.

Some countries are also using the pandemic as an opportunity to make their societies more resilient to the looming climate crisis. Germany's \$145 billion stimulus plan devotes about one third of its funds to public transportation, electric vehicles and renewable energy, with no money provided for combustion engine vehicles. The government is also driving down the cost of clean energy, increasing research and development of green hydrogen, and investing in more sustainable agriculture and forest management as well as initiatives to decrease shipping and airlines emissions.

Sharvari

"Hindi is our national language" is literally shoved down our throats since the embryonal stage of an Indian's life. We are made to speak in Hindi in order to be called Indian, aren't we? "Hindi hain hum!" "Apdiya? Sapdiya? Po! Po! Po!" is what we hear in the neighborhood unless you're a software engineer living in Whitefield. You have to order for 'Dosa'; pronounced with an accent at the D, if you want to have 'Dose'; pronounced like French e accent aigü. "Come ra, we'll put one scene" is what you say to start a fight instead of "Baa maga". It is always English outside, because pride!!! and kannada is only with your family. Your every conversation with a stranger starts with "Kannada barutha?" and a normal everyday conversation with your co-worker takes place in neutral language because otherwise it is "They don't speak in English? What???"

You know the language of a land 5,673 kms away from Karunadu (another name for Karnataka, because you do not know) which has almost no use on a day-to-day basis and you know every single line of that BTS song but when you have been living in Karnataka for a while and you are in a market and need to hail a rickshaw urgently, it is "No, sir, Kannad Gothilla". But first things first, when did 'Kannada' become 'Kannad'? When did pronouncing the 'a' in the end become "cheap"? Liking and disliking anything in life depends on two factors – necessity and personal interest. The same applies to learning a language. But for no apparent reason, Karnataka is the only state where outsiders and pseudoKannadigas tend to overlook the necessity of the native language and go around saying "Kannad gothilla" like it's some kind of an honorary badge. It was only after I passed

"Kannad Gothilla"

out from the small world of school life did, I realize that my mother tongue was surviving on a ventilator in its own home. Every document in the bank needs to be filled in only two languages - Hindi and English. It makes, absolutely, no sense when the railway reservation charts between two places in Karnataka is given in only Hindi and English in a Kannada speaking state. Practically speaking, these languages do not even serve a large purpose in day-to-day life in a Kannada-speaking state. Why should my mother tongue, Kannada, in its home state, be pushed to a corner in its abode? Many such aberrations can be found in every corner of the state. Adding salt to the injury, preliminary exams of Union Government are also offered in these two languages giving the Hindi population an upper hand over the others and an unfair advantage. System has

bent the society in such a way that it gives Hindi preferential status. Do you know what a Cuckoo bird does to a Crow's eggs in its nest? One thing I have noticed, and I am very sure everyone will agree with me in the matter, is that children and adults, alike, who are taught their mother tongue from a young age and are encouraged to speak in it are more confident and outgoing than the ones forced to speak in a different language. The human race has evolved in such a way that the opinion of communicating in a language that is not foreign and is not "the national language" of the country is considered to be low-class comes in-built with the human race. Somehow, over the years the equation of sophistication and language had changed drastically and it is not looking good. It is high time we come out this infuriating, embarrassing and a highly disappointing situation

and mindset. That is the first right step towards the right direction. Kannada is an extremely beautiful language and I am proud to be a Kannadiga!

Namma Bhashe, Namma Hemme!

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Global leaders remain confused

Hrittik Dutta

Rome: After the G20 meet, the UN secretary general gave mixed verdicts on the climate change agreements which took place between the European Union and 19 other countries. While he welcomes the G20's recommitment to global solutions, yet he leaves Rome with his hopes unfulfilled—however they are not fully buried. Onwards to COP26 in Glasgow he keeps the goal of 1.5 degrees alive and to implement promises on finance and adaptation of people & planet.

During the two-day meeting in Rome, the G20 leaders agreed to end financing for new overseas coal plants but did not set a specific year goal for achieving zero greenhouse gas emissions.



U.N chief says G20 didn't meet his climate hopes. Source: AP News

No time-bound agreements were reached as leaders of the world's top economies ended the summit in Rome promising to provide \$100 billion a year to counter climate change. Rich democracies have set 2050 for achieving that goal, while on the other hand other members including China, Russia and Saudi Arabia have set the year 2060.

Group of 20 major economies made and agreed with a final statement on 31st October 2021 that urged 'meaningful and effective' action to limit

global warming but on the other hand created tensions amongst the climate activists by promising fewer concrete commitments. The outcome of days of tough negotiation among diplomats left huge number of work to be done at the broader United Nation COP26 Climate summit in Scotland.

Meanwhile, US President Joe Biden told the reporters that he was disappointed that Russia and China were not present in terms of any commitments to deal with climate change at the G20 summit Biden told the reporters.

Source: *The Hindu*

Yahoo quits out of China

Hrittik Dutta

Hong Kong: With increasingly firm grip on internet censorship by the Chinese authorities the Yahoo inc. had to pull out of China stating the country as a challenging operating environment. With this symbolic move, many of the services were already blocked by China's digital censorship. In recognition of the increasingly challenging business and legal environment in China, Yahoo's services will no longer be accessible from mainland China as of November 1st. The company's policy remains committed to the rights of their users and a free and open internet. Yahoo's reason for its departure coincided with the Chinese Government implementing China's personal Protection Law which limits what information companies can gather and also set standards of how it shall be stored.

With this, Yahoo was criticized by the lawmakers in 2007 after they handed over data to the Chinese authority in Beijing leading to their imprisonment.

With such a step taken from a company like this comes as the American and Chinese governments built up tensions over technology and trade causing the U.S to put restrictions on Chinese tech companies alleging that they have secret ties with the Chinese government and with its military.

Yahoo happens to be the latest foreign company to exit China followed by google, Microsoft and LinkedIn. An illustration of the choices internet companies face in a huge potential market.

Following this, Chinese companies came up with alternative internet of its own digital giants. The Baidu search engine seem to have largely replace Google and China.

Source: AP News, The Hindu

Training exercise turned fatal: Nine killed after cave collapses in Brazil.

Mehek TTP

According to Brazilian authorities, nine firefighters died when the roof of a cave collapsed during training near Altinópolis, Brazil. The accident took place on Sunday, November 1, 2021 when 26 firefighters were training at the Duas Bocas caves, the São Paulo Fire Department reported on Twitter.

Earlier, officials stated that three people had died and six were missing. The identities of the victims were not disclosed. The Mayor's office stated that five people were transferred to a local hospital and discharged. The firefighters were joined by the police and ambulance in a desperate attempt to free those who were still trapped but the work was hampered by heavy rain.



9 Brazilian Firefighters dead after cave collapse. Source: *IndiaToday.com*

Remote access was difficult and the threat of additional avalanches made rescue operations difficult.

São Paulo Governor, João Doria tweeted "We will provide all the support and resources needed to rescue the victims." In an interview

with GloboNews, Christina Trifoni, the mother of one of the instructors attending the training event, explained that the group had planned on spending the night in the cave. She stated that what had happened was that the entrance to the

place they were in, collapsed and that she was desperate, as she stood next to relatives of fellow firefighters who anxiously awaited word on the rescue effort.

Altinópolis, about 300km (200 miles) north of Sao Paulo city, is known for its caves, a major regional tourist attraction.

Source: *IndiaToday.com*

Japan: Man dressed as joker stabs 17, starts fire on train

Mehek TTP

According to police and witnesses, a 24 year old man waving a knife, got on a suburban train in Tokyo on Sunday and proceeded to stab several passengers before spraying a liquid and starting a fire. The Tokyo Fire Department said 17 passengers, including three, were seriously injured. The attack took place at around (11:00 GMT) near Kokuryo station, in the city's western suburbs.

Local media reports stated that he wanted to kill people so that he would be sentenced to death. Video footage has surfaced showing passengers running through the carriages away from the flames and many passengers climbing out through the windows.

Source: *THEWEEK*

IRON MAN OF INDIA

Nanditha S Kumar

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was a prominent figure in the Indian freedom struggle. He served as a senior leader of the Indian National Congress and went on to become India's first Deputy Prime Minister and first Home Minister.

Born on the 31st day of October in the year 1875 in Nadiad, Gujarat, Patel was a polished lawyer by profession. Peeking into his political life, Patel was neither active nor a follower of Gandhian principles in the initial stages of the freedom struggle. He met Mahatma Gandhi in Godhra in 1917, which brought a massive change in his life. Patel quit his hard-earned job to be a full-fledged congressman obeying Gandhi's order.



Statue of Unity standing tall on Narmada valley. Source: newindianexpress.com

The Bardoli Satyagraha of 1928 earned him the title of 'Sardar'. Patel was also known for his social reforms as he outcasted untouchability, caste discrimination, worked against alcohol consumption and women empowerment. Patel was suggested into the Congress presidency by Pandit Motilal Nehru and was elected as a President

in 1931. He dreamt of a secular nation and erasing untouchability.

After acquiring Independence, Patel was appointed as the First Deputy Prime Minister of India and later went on to become the first Home Minister of India in 1948. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was responsible for the accession of 565 princely states into the Union of

India. Nehru, as a portrayal of tribute, called Sardar "the builder and consolidator of new India". India recognizes the 31st day of October as National Unity Day in remembrance of the great soul. The irreplaceable services of Sardar Patel were available only for 3 years after India gained independence. The Iron Man of India left us on 15th December 1950 aged 75 after suffering a severe heart attack.

Today, the Statue of Unity stands tall on the Narmada Valley reminding all of us the fierce and strong human he was.

Source: clearIAS.com

22-year-old woman raped in Punjab

Alka P Lewis

A 22-year-old woman was raped by her own friend upon dropping her to her paying guest accommodation in Punjab's Mohali district.

The incident took place on October 29, 2021 when the woman was returning to Mohali from Barnala on a bus at night. According to the filed complaint, the victim had asked her friend, Kulwinder Singh, to pick her up and drop her to her PG at 8pm. The accused picked her up and took her to a deserted place where he threatened her by showing a gun and then raped her multiple times. He, then, left her on the road and drove away from where she hired a cab to her paying guest accommodation. The very next day, a case was filed against the accused.

Source: india.com

Prime Minister, Narendra Modi meets Pope Francis

Alka P Lewis

Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Pope Francis at the Vatican city on October 30, 2021. Prime Minister Modi became the fifth person to visit the largest religious denomination in the world and invited the pope to visit India after the one on one meeting.

The last Papal visit took place in 2000 when Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the Prime Minister of India. Pope Francis accepted the invitation from the PM and informed that there was a failure of negotiations for the Papal trip to India in the year 2017.

Before Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Indira Gandhi and I K Gujral had met the Pope John Paul II in Rome. The meeting was scheduled for just 20 minutes but it went on to 1 hour as they had to discuss issues like ending poverty and climatic problems. After the meeting with the Pope, Prime Minister Modi



Pope Francis greeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Source: onmanorama.com

tweeted warm meeting with Pope Francis and the wide range of issues they discussed.

The Catholic church heads in India had been trying for a papal visit and had also made a few representations to the Prime Minister since he came to power. The Vatican does not initiate visits to any country without a formal invitation from the head of the government.

During the meeting at the Vatican City, Prime Minister Narendra Modi gifted a specially made silver candelabra and a book of Indian climate initiatives to Pope Francis and informed the Pope that the book 'The Climate Climb' consists of India's strategy, actions and achievements is on climate change. In return, the Pope honoured the Prime Minister with a bronze plaque containing the inscription:

'The desert will become a garden.' National Security Advisor (NSA), Ajith Doval and External Affairs Minister (EAM), Dr. S Jaishankar accompanied the Prime Minister while departing from the Vatican city to participate in the two day G20 Summit after the meeting on Saturday, October 30, 2021. As the Prime Minister arrived at the G20 Summit, he was welcomed by Italian Prime Minister Mario

Dragi and soon they agreed on Italy-India Strategic partnership in energy transition after having a small meeting. The Italian Prime Minister also congratulated him for India's massive progress on the Covid-19 vaccination. It is also reported that PM-Modi will be discussing about the Pandemic, economy, sustainable development and climatic changes with the other G20 leaders.

Prime Minister also met the different communities of the Italian capital including the Indians who reside there and also paid tribute at the bust of Mahatma Gandhi in Rome.

During the special briefing of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Italy, Harshvardhan Shringla, Foreign Secretary Of India stated that the issues would cover a range of areas of interest in terms of general global perspectives and issues that are important to all of us.

Source: Indian Express

A great leap towards equality

Nanditha S Kumar

Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) has announced that it will be conducting an entrance exam for the National Defence Academy (NDA) on November 14, 2021. Following the landmark judgment of the Supreme Court, women candidates are also allowed to apply from this year onwards - the ruling was a great leap towards gender equality. This year, 1.7 lakh of 5 lakh candidates are women. It is



Union Public Service Commission, Delhi. Source: theprint.in

a dream come true moment for every woman who is urged to serve her nation. In the meantime, there

have been made certain changes in the curriculum, the training process, and necessary

developments have been brought in. Army Chief General, Manoj Mukund Naravane announced that the forces are ready to welcome women aboard. The Supreme Court carried this judgment as debarring women based on gender amounts to gender discrimination which is violating their fundamental right to equality (Article 14), right to non-discrimination (Article 15), and right

to practice any occupation (Article 19) ensured under the Indian Constitution. The verdict permits eligible female candidates to appear in the 'National Defence Academy and Naval Academy Examination' and would be trained at the NDA granting Permanent Commission and command postings to women in the army.

Source: Times Now

COP26 Climate Summit: Global Action plan to tackle climate crisis

Hrittik Dutta

Glasgow: The 26th Conference of Parties (COP26) Climate Summit was declared open on October 31, marking the commencement of two weeks of major international climate negotiations by the world leaders in order to tackle the deteriorating global climate crisis. Almost 200 countries participating in the summit will discuss solutions to the on-going climate change and its repercussions round the world. The leaders will also try to solve the issues left hanging post the forging of 2015 Paris Climate Accord. Furthermore, various activists including Greta Thunberg, celebrities and diplomats alike have arrived in Glasgow, with more than 30,000 delegates expected to participate in the two-week conference.

Various world leaders have been putting forth their stances on the imperative environmental issues in hand and are asserting new commitments and goals in terms of reduction in carbon emissions by 2030 and beyond, climate finance and other crucial matters. The COP26 Summit is, by far, the most important international meeting on climate change since the Paris Agreement in 2015.

The opening ceremony was ennobled by the speeches from the summit's appointed President Alok Sharma, the Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC Patricia Espinosa and the Chair of the IPCC Dr Hoesung Lee. Sharma knew that COP26 is their last best hope to keep 1.5° in reach. He also knew they have an unprecedented negotiations agenda ahead of us. However he believes this international system can deliver it. He further added they need to prioritise 'opportunities for green growth'. Meanwhile, Espinosa's options were either to choose to achieve rapid and large-scale reductions of emissions to keep the goal of limiting global warming to 1.5C - or they accept that humanity faces a bleak future on this planet.

On the first day of the summit, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson delivered his speech, warning every country how it's high time everyone seriously thought about climate change. He further talked about the jeopardy the food supplies and various coastal cities would be in if the global temperature rises any further.

On November 2, Prime Minister Narendra Modi firmly stated that India is the

only country that is committing itself to tackling climate change under the Paris Agreement. He told the world leaders that India will target a 'net-zero emissions' goal by 2070 and aim at increasing its non-fossil fuel energy to 500GW in its energy mix by 2030. Keeping India at the 'High-level Segment for Heads of States and Government' at the UN COP26 at Glasgow, he also mentioned that India has been working hard on tackling climate change-related issues. He also shared that India has around 17% of the world's total population out of which there is only 5% of the total emission. Following this he announced that India plans to reduce 1 billion tonnes of carbon emission from the total projected emissions and also reduce carbon intensity by 45% in its economy.



Key moments from COP26 climate summit. Source: Reuters

Source: zeenewsindia.com

"Last seven years have been the warmest on record", WMO

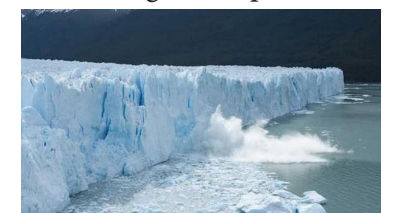
Sakshat Tornekar

"The provisional WMO 'State of the Global Climate 2021' report draws from the latest scientific evidence to show how our planet is changing before our eyes. From the ocean depths to mountain tops, from melting glaciers to relentless extreme weather events, ecosystems and communities around the globe are being devastated. COP26 must be a turning point for people and the planet. Scientists are clear on the facts. Now leaders need to be just as clear in their actions," said United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

The World Meteorological Organisation's provisional State of Climate in 2021 assessment, released on the eve of the World Leaders Summit at the Glasgow climate change conference (COP26), stated that the mean global sea level increase was 2.1mm per year between 1993 and 2002 and 4.4mm per year between 2013 and 2021 with the loss of ice mass from glaciers and ice sheets being the primary cause. At its peak in March, Arctic Sea ice was lower than the 1981-2010 average. The area of sea ice in the Laptev Sea and East Greenland Sea regions rapidly decreased

in June and early July. As a result, the Arctic-wide Sea ice extent hit a new low in the first half of July, according to the WMO.

As per the WMO's State of the Climate in Asia report released last week, India lost \$87 billion last year due to calamities such as tropical cyclones, floods, and droughts. It has observed that sea surface temperatures in and around Asia are rising three times faster than the world average, particularly in the Arabian Sea. A rapid rise in sea level, according to climate experts, might endanger India's 7,500-kilometer coastline. According to the analysis, the last seven years are on course to be the warmest on record. Although this year was somewhat cooler than prior years due to temporary cooling caused by La Niña, WMO emphasised that this does not negate or stop the long-term trend of rising temperatures.



A melting glacier. Source: PTI

Source: The Business Standard, Republicworld.com

Aguero hospitalised

Aalekh Majumdar

On Saturday, during the Barcelona versus Alaves game, the 33 year old Barcelona striker, Sergio Aguero was seen holding his chest and gripped about feeling woozy as his side's 1-1 La Liga draw with Alaves on Saturday. Clinical staff hurried to help Aguero, who in the long run got up and gradually strolled off the pitch independently and was

subsequently hospitalized.

Clinical trials have uncovered that Sergio Aguero has a sporadic heartbeat 'cardiovascular arrhythmia'. He will, presently, stay in the emergency clinic as they discover the seriousness of the tissue.

He will be missing the impending champions league and La Liga game against dynamo Kyiv and Celta Vigo.



Sergio Aguero during the match between F.C. Barcelona and Deportivo Alaves. Source: skysports.com

Source: Al-Jazeera, BBC News

Sathiyam is back, winning titles

Aalekh Majumdar

After an early exit from the Tokyo Games, India's ace table tennis player, Sathiyam, is back with a hit, winning three titles. "The fire increments when it hits you harder," he said.

It's been three months since that misfortune and Sathiyam's fire is shining brilliantly already. In this period, the 28-year-old packed away three worldwide titles on the master visit across three classes; the WTT Budapest Blended Copies title with Manika Batra in August, the ITTF Czech International Open Singles crown sometime thereafter and the WTT Tunis Men's duplicates title on Saturday.



India's ace Table Tennis Player, Sathiyam. Source: Sports 18

What tops an already "good thing"—as Sathiyam named it—came in the men's doubles where he and Desai crushed the World No. 7 Hungarian pair of Nandor Ecseki and Adam Szudi from two games down in the semi-last and the French combo of Lebeson and Alexandre Cassin 3-1 in the last.

It gave Sathiyam a maiden worldwide men's doubles title and a first quarter-last debut in a World Table Tennis (WTT) competition in singles. "It's perhaps the best competition I've played after quite a while in my level," he said. "I'm exceptionally glad that I could reverse the situation after Tokyo. I didn't anticipate that it would happen so quickly" and later added "I'll go all out there once more". Sathiyam will keep playing blended duplicates with Batra and separately the singles in the two WTT occasions in Slovenia before the World Championships which are to be held from November 23 in Houston.

Source: Hindustan Times

Iniyam wins Chess tournament

Aalekh Majumdar

Indian Chess Grandmaster (GM), P. Iniyam emerged victorious in the fifth Rujna Zora Chess Competition held on Saturday with seven focuses from nine rounds. He had, of late, won an occasion in Spain and his exhibition here empowered him to gain one Elo point. His present FIDE rating is 2556.

The GM got done with five successes and four draws, stayed undefeated and completed a large portion of a point against the

second positioned International Master (IM), Markarian Rudik of Russia.

The draws came against Serbian GM Emir Dizdarevic, Rudik and Indian IM, S. Nitin. After a lethargic beginning of 2.5/4, Iniyam got pace, winning the following four games. However, two of Iniyam's rivals, GM Miodrag and IM Alan Safar Ramoutar failed to appear for their games which were then relinquished. Rudik followed Iniyam by a large

portion of a point before the last game which was against the Indian. The last game between the two finished in a draw which enabled the Indian to secure victory. The competition was a 10-player, all-play-every one, with classical time control and included three GMs.



Indian Chess Grandmaster, P. Iniyam. Source: Hindustan Times

WHAT'S NEW?



Dune: Part Two

After the success of Dune franchise, with reviews praising the movie's ambition and ability to deliver a visually thrilling adaptation out of convoluted source material. Director Villeneuve himself announced the release of *DUNE: PART TWO* on October 20, 2023.

Book-The Party Crasher-From the #1 New York Times bestselling author of Love Your Life comes an amusing and endearing novel with regards to family, set against the scenery of the most remarkable party you've at any point slipped into.



The Party Crasher



No Time to die

Daniel Craig's last James Bond film, *No Time To Die's* film industry assortment is great, especially during these Covid-19 influenced times, *No Time to Die* had a financial plan of \$ 250 million however has procured an income crossing \$ 600 million.

SUDOKU

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