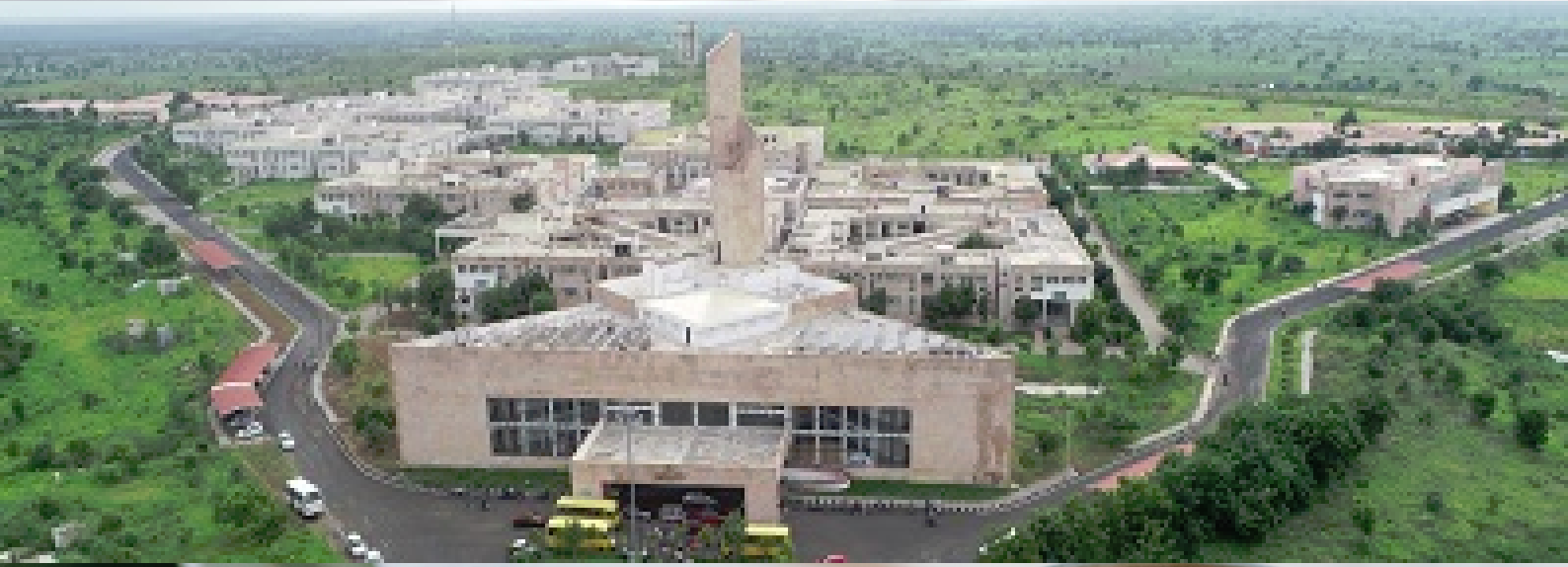




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EDUCATION

ಮರತೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನೇಶ್ವರರ ನ್ಯಾಯ ಪರಂಪರೆ ಸ್ಮರಣೆ ಅನಾದಿ ಕಾಲದಿಂದಲೂ ನ್ಯಾಯ ಪರಂಪರೆ

■ ವಿಕ ಸುದ್ದಿಯೋಕ ಕಲಬುರಗಿ

ಇಂದಿನ ಕಾನೂನು ಪ್ರಾಚೀನ ಗ್ರಂಥ ಮತ್ತು ವಿವಿಧ ನ್ಯಾಯಶಾಸ್ತ್ರಜ್ಞರು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ತತ್ವಗಳಿಂದ ಹುಟ್ಟಿಕೊಂಡಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಉಚ್ಚ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಧೀಶರಾದ ನ್ಯಾಯಮೂರ್ತಿ ಇ.ಎಸ್. ಇಂದಿರೇಶ್ ಹೇಳಿದರು.



ಮರತೂರಿನ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನೇಶ್ವರ ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಿತಿಾಕ್ಷರ ಗ್ರಂಥದ ಲೇಖಕ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನೇಶ್ವರ ಅವರನ್ನು ಸನ್ಮಾನಿಸಲು ಚಾಲುಕ್ಯ ಚಕ್ರವರ್ತಿ 6ನೇ ವಿಕ್ರಮಾದಿತ್ಯ ಮರತೂರ್ಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿ 901 ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಸ್ಮರಣಾರ್ಥ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನೇಶ್ವರ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಸಿಯುಕೆಯ ಕಾನೂನು ವಿಭಾಗ ಜಂಟಿಯಾಗಿ ನ್ಯಾಯ ಪರಂಪರೆ ಸ್ಮರಣೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ಆಯೋಜಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು.

ಸತ್ಯನಾರಾಯಣ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ, ಕಾನೂನು ನಿಯಮಗಳು ಬಹಳ ಮುಖ್ಯ. ಕಕ್ಷಿದಾರ ಮತ್ತು ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದ ಹಿತಾಸಕ್ತಿ ಕಾಪಾಡಲು ನಮಗೆ ಉತ್ತಮ ವಕೀಲರು ಬೇಕು. ಯಾವುದೇ ಸಮಾಜದ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ಕಾನೂನು ಮತ್ತು ಸುವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಬಹಳ ಮುಖ್ಯ. ಕಾನೂನಿನ ಆಡಳಿತವಿಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದರೆ ಪ್ರಭಲರು ದುರ್ಬಲರನ್ನು ಶೋಷಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದಲೇ ಜನರು ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಾಜದ ರಕ್ಷಣೆಗೆ ಕಾನೂನು ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದರು.

ಸಿಯುಕೆಯ ಕಾನೂನು ವಿಭಾಗ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಜ್ಞಾನೇಶ್ವರ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಾನ ಟ್ರಸ್ಟ್ ನಡುವೆ ಮಿತಿಾಕ್ಷರ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಾಚೀನ ಭಾರತೀಯ ಕಾನೂನು ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಕುರಿತು

ಜಂಟಿಯಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಗಾರಗಳು, ವಿಚಾರಗೋಷ್ಠಿಗಳು, ಸಂಶೋಧನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರ ಕೋರ್ಸ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಯೋಜಿಸಲು ಒಟ್ಟಾಗಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಲು ಸಹಿ ಹಾಕಲಾಯಿತು.

ಸಿಯುಕೆಯ ಕಾನೂನು ನ್ಯಾಯಶಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ಶಾಲೆಯ ಡೀನ್ ಡಾ. ಬಸವರಾಜ ಎಂ.ಕುಬಕಡ್ಡಿ ಸ್ವಾಗತಿಸಿ, ಮಹಾದೇವಯ್ಯ ಕರದಳ್ಳಿ ಪ್ರಾಸ್ತಾವಿಕ ಮಾತನಾಡಿದರು. ವಿಜ್ಞಾನೇಶ್ವರ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಾನ ಟ್ರಸ್ಟ್ ಎಸ್.ಸಿ.ಪಾಟೀಲ್ ವಂದಿಸಿದರು. ಜಿ.ನಾಗರಾಜ್ ನಿರೂಪಿಸಿದರು. ಸಿಯುಕೆ, ವಿಜ್ಞಾನೇಶ್ವರ ಕಾನೂನು ಕಾಲೇಜು, ಎಸ್‌ಎಸ್‌ಎಲ್ ಕಾನೂನು ಕಾಲೇಜು, ಸಿದ್ಧಾರ್ಥ ಕಾನೂನು ಕಾಲೇಜು, ಕಾನೂನು

ಭ್ರಷ್ಟಾಚಾರ ಮತ್ತು ರಾಜ ನಮ್ಮ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮತ್ತು ಅವುಗಳ ದಕ್ಷತೆ ದುರ್ಬಲಗೊಳಿಸುತ್ತಿವೆ. ವೈದ್ಯರು, ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು ಮತ್ತು ನ್ಯಾಯಾಂಗವು ಯಾವುದೇ ಒತ್ತಡ, ಪಕ್ಷಪಾತ ಮತ್ತು ಭಯವಿಲ್ಲದೆ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಿದರೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಯಾವುದೇ ದೇಶವು ಪ್ರಗತಿ ಹೊಂದುತ್ತದೆ. ನಾವು ನಮ್ಮ ವೃತ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೈತಿಕತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಾಮಾಣಿಕತೆಯ ಎತ್ತಿ ಹಿಡಿಯಬೇಕು.

- ಪ್ರೊ.ಬಟ್ಟು ಸತ್ಯನಾರಾಯಣ ಕುಲಪತಿ ಸಿಯುಕೆ

ಸಮಾಜದಲ್ಲಿ ನ್ಯಾಯ ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಲು ಮತ್ತು ಎತ್ತಿಹಿಡಿಯಲು ನಾವು ಧೈರ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಾಮಾಣಿಕರಾಗಿರಬೇಕು. ಸವಾಲುಗಳನ್ನು ಧೈರ್ಯದಿಂದ ಎದುರಿಸಲು ನಾನು ಸಲಹೆ ನೀಡುತ್ತೇನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ. ನನ್ನ ಜೀವನದಲ್ಲಿ ನಾನು ಅಂತಹ ಅನೇಕ ಘಟನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಎದುರಿಸಿದ್ದೇನೆ.

- ಬಸವರಾಜ ಪಾಟೀಲ್ ಸೇಡಂ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನೇಶ್ವರ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಾನ ಟ್ರಸ್ಟ್

ಕಾಲೇಜು ರಾಯಚೂರಿನ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಿದ್ದರು.

ಸಿಯುಕೆ ಕುಲಪತಿ ಪ್ರೊ.ಬಟ್ಟು

ಸಿಯುಕೆ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕ ಡಾ.ರೋಹಿಣಾಕ್ಷ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯ | ದಿಶಾ ಪಿಯು ಕಾಲೇಜು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಬೀಳ್ಕೊಡುಗೆ ಕನಸು ನನಸಾಗಿಸಲು ಕಠಿಣ ಪರಿಶ್ರಮ ಅಗತ್ಯ

■ ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ಸುದ್ದಿಜಾಲ ಕಲಬುರಗಿ ಪರಿಶ್ರಮ, ತ್ಯಾಗ ಮತ್ತು ಸಕಾರಾತ್ಮಕ ಚಿಂತನೆ ಸಾಧನೆಗೆ ಸುಗಮ ದಾರಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಡುತ್ತವೆ ಎಂದು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕೇಂದ್ರೀಯ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕ ಡಾ.ರೋಹಿಣಾಕ್ಷ ತಿರ್ರಾಳು ಹೇಳಿದರು.

ನಗರದ ಸಂಕಲ್ಪ ಫೌಂಡೇಷನ್‌ನ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಿತ ದಿಶಾ ಪದವಿಪೂರ್ವ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಡಾ.ಎಸ್.ಎಂ. ಪಂಡಿತ ರಂಗಮಂದಿರದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾನುವಾರ ಆಯೋಜಿಸಿದ್ದ ಪಿಯು ದ್ವಿತೀಯ ವರ್ಷದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಬೀಳ್ಕೊಡುಗೆ ಸಮಾರಂಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅತಿಥಿಯಾಗಿ ಮಾತನಾಡಿದ ಅವರು, ಪಿಯು ದ್ವಿತೀಯ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಮಹತ್ವದ ಘಟ್ಟ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಬ್ಬ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ಕನಸು ನನಸಾಗಿಸಲು ಕಠಿಣ ಪರಿಶ್ರಮ ಪಡಬೇಕು. ಗುರಿ, ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ, ಪರಿಶ್ರಮದಿಂದ ಸಾಧನೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯ. ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ

ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ



ಕಲಬುರಗಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದಿಶಾ ಪಿಯು ಕಾಲೇಜು ಭಾನುವಾರ ಆಯೋಜಿಸಿದ್ದ ಬೀಳ್ಕೊಡುಗೆ ಸಮಾರಂಭವನ್ನು ಡಾ.ರೋಹಿಣಾಕ್ಷ ತಿರ್ರಾಳು ಉದ್ಘಾಟಿಸಿದರು. ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಶಿವಾನಂದ ಖಜೂರಗಿ, ನಿತೀನ್ ತಾಂದಳೆ, ವೆಂಕಟೇಶ, ಗುರುಶಾಂತಪ್ಪ ಇತರರಿದ್ದರು.

ಸೂಕ್ತ ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶನ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ದಿಶಾ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಕಾರ್ಯವನ್ನು ಶ್ಲಾಘಿಸಿದರು.

ಸಮಾಜದಲ್ಲಿ ಎಲ್ಲರೂ ಬದುಕುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆದರೆ ಅರ್ಥಪೂರ್ಣ ಬದುಕಿಗೆ ಆದ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡಬೇಕು. ಕೈಕಟ್ಟಿ ಕುಳಿತರೆ ಸಾಧನೆ ಅಸಾಧ್ಯ. ಸಕಾರಾತ್ಮಕ ಚಿಂತನೆ ಅಳವಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಿ,

ಸೋಲಿಗೆ ಕಂಗಡಬೇಡಿ. ಜೀವನದಲ್ಲಿನ ಕೊರತೆಗಳು ಸಾಧನೆಗೆ ಅಡ್ಡಿ ಆಗಬಾರದು. ಭಯ, ಆತಂಕ, ಕೀಳರಿಮೆಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶ ಕೊಡಬೇಡಿ ಎಂದು ಕಿವಿಮಾತು ಹೇಳಿದರು.

ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆ ವಹಿಸಿದ್ದ ಕಾಲೇಜಿನ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಶಿವಾನಂದ ಖಜೂರಗಿ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ, ಶಿಕ್ಷಣದ ಜತೆಗೆ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ನೈತಿಕತೆ, ಮೌಲ್ಯ

ಕಲಿಸಬೇಕಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಪ್ರಸಕ್ತ ಇದರ ಕೊರತೆ ಕಾಡುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಕಳವಳ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿದರು.

ಸಮಾಜ, ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೈಜೋಡಿಸುವುದು ಅಗತ್ಯ. ವಿದ್ಯಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಪಾಲಕರು ಇದರ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ವಹಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಿದೆ. ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾಲಕರು ತಮ್ಮ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಸಮಯ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಇಡೀ ದಿನ ತಮ್ಮ ಕೆಲಸದಲ್ಲೇ ತೊಡಗಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಸಮಯ ನೀಡಿದರೆ ಅವರಲ್ಲಿನ ಶಕ್ತಿ, ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯ ಗುರುತಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಆಲಿಸಿ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶನ ಮಾಡಿ ಎಂದು ಸಲಹೆ ಮಾಡಿದರು.

ಪ್ರಮುಖರಾದ ಪ್ರಶಾಂತ ಮಾನಕರ್, ನಿತೀನ್ ತಾಂದಳೆ, ವೆಂಕಟೇಶ, ಗುರುಶಾಂತಪ್ಪ ಅಕ್ಕ ಇತರರಿದ್ದರು. ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿನಿ ಅಕ್ಷತಾ ವಂದಿಸಿದರು.

ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಬ್ಬರಿಗೂ ರೋಲ್ ಮಾಡೆಲ್ ಗಳಿರಬೇಕು. ದೊಡ್ಡ ಕನಸು ಕಾಣಬೇಕು. ಕಠಿಣ ಪರಿಶ್ರಮದೊಂದಿಗೆ ನಿರ್ದಿಷ್ಟ ಗುರಿಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಮುಂದಡಿ ಇಡಬೇಕು. ಯಾವ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಯೂ ಅಸಮರ್ಥನಲ್ಲ. ಆತನಲ್ಲಿನ ವಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಪ್ರತಿಭೆ ಗುರುತಿಸಿ ಸೂಕ್ತ ದಾರಿ ತೋರಿಸಬೇಕು. ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ವಿಶಾಲವಾದ ಜಗತ್ತು ಪರಿಚಯಿಸಿಕೊಂಡರೆ ಜೀವನ ರೂಪಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಅನುಕೂಲವಾಗಲಿದೆ.

|| ಡಾ.ರೋಹಿಣಾಕ್ಷ ತಿರ್ರಾಳು ||
ಸಿಯುಕೆ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕ



ದಿಶಾ ಪಿಯು ಕಾಲೇಜು ಆಯೋಜಿಸಿದ್ದ ಬೀಳ್ಕೊಡುಗೆ ಸಮಾರಂಭದ ಸಾಂಸ್ಕೃತಿಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ/ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿನಿಯರು ಕುಣಿದು ಕುಪ್ಪಳಿಸಿದರು.

Train the mind to think

Why cultivating critical thinking in Liberal Arts Education is becoming increasingly important in today's world

V. Krishnappa

Albert Einstein once wrote that the true value of "college education is not learning many facts but the training of the mind to think." Facing irreducible complexity and uncertainty in the social, economic, political, environmental and technological domains in our time, educators globally are searching for ways to make educational experiences relevant for the demands of contemporary workplaces.

There is an urgent need to bridge the 'skill deficit' in critical thinking and other career-enhancing skills. Increasingly, educational institutions are adapting the liberal arts model of education, which places equal importance on both knowledge acquisition and skill development to enhance learners' capacities to skillfully adapt to emerging complex environments. The ability to think while doing, embrace uncertainty, deal with emergent novelty, and give creative expression to complex developments are seen as more critical than the capacity to process information, facts and recombine existing knowledge. The twin challenges of Artificial Intelligence and the growing complexities of the modern workplace are leading us to look for a new educational process that gives primacy to critical thinking and creativity,



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which orientates learners to appreciate the complex nature of human interactions, and socio-economic and political developments. Trained to see more sides to a problem, learners will resist the temptation to make quick judgments and advance over-simplified solutions that might end up creating more problems than they intended to solve.

Interpreting events

Human events are marked by the ambiguity of their meanings. An ability not only to interpret but also treat all interpretations as perspectives that need to take into account other viewpoints is a form of intelligence that is much in demand in managerial decision-making and strategic action. The ability to add layers of meaning to novel events and take into consideration points of view that may contradict one's own is more likely to enhance creative possibilities.

Human situations are marked by increasing uncertainty. No amount of

prior learning and foresight will be sufficient basis for decision-making and action as the recent events. An ability to judge the odds, imagine the possibility of failure, adapt to emergent novel developments, and recalibrate one's interventions in an alert and ongoing manner will be the mark of a masterful innovator and expert manager. Critical-thinking training takes the uncertainty of human situations as a cardinal starting point and prepares students to develop psychological strategies and attitudes to cope with uncertainty.

Strategies

Critical-thinking orientation takes seriously the idea that true education is not merely the transfer of the latest states of knowledge but, more importantly, is about orientation for continuous learning. In our fast-changing world, knowledge becomes irrelevant quickly. In a world marked by fast-paced globalisation and technological change, an ability to critically understand the

self and others is crucial for cross-cultural communication and psychological well-being. Further, an ability to navigate cultural complexity, respect otherness, accommodate difference, cultivate empathy, and spot creative possibilities will be highly valued attributes in the contemporary workplace.

In order to train students in critical thinking, liberal arts educators have adopted a range of pedagogical strategies. Typically, institutions emphasise the importance of good reading, often placing a premium on reading time-tested classics, which provide a rich training ground for critical thinking. Educators have for long recognised the importance of learning to write well in order to think well.

Many institutions systematically teach writing skills during the foundation year to develop not only better communication skills but also to develop the faculty for critical thinking. Reading, writing, and thinking are the three key university skills and one cannot learn one without also learning the other two. A holistic training in liberal arts should train the learner simultaneously how to read well, write richly, and think critically.

Views expressed are personal.

The writer is Professor at School of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Executive Director of the Mahatma Gandhi Centre for Contemporary Ethics at RV University, Bengaluru.

With flexible courses, IITs open doors for students studying in Tier-2, Tier-3 towns

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

Studying in an Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) is usually considered aspirational for students from colleges in Tier-2 or -3 towns. Five IITs – Ropar, Guwahati, Mandi, Patna and Kanpur – are now set to change this notion.

For the academic year 2024-25, students studying in such colleges can also get an IIT tag by opting for a minor specialisation, a diploma, a Bachelor's or a Master's degree, which will be offered in partnership with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and the aforementioned IITs, NSDC CEO Ved Mani Tiwari told *The Hindu*.

"IITs have opened their doors to those who want to pursue a short-term skilling programme through Pradhan Mantri Kaushal



New vistas: The courses are offered in partnership with the National Skill Development Corporation. PTI

Vikas schemes or an Industrial Training Institute (ITI) student who will like to pursue a certificate or diploma programme from the IITs. All the skilling programmes will be facilitated via Skill India Digital platform," Mr. Tiwari said.

The courses will work on a credit-based system, where a minor specialisation from the IIT will entail taking 10 to 18 credits. "While the core degree will be awarded by the institut-

ing university to which the college is affiliated, there will be a mention of minor specialisation from IIT," he further said.

In a four-year undergraduate degree, a total of 160 credits would be required to receive a Bachelor of Science degree from an IIT. "Out of total 160 credits, it is proposed to deliver skill component of 18 credits through Skill India Digital (SID) via a strategic delivery partner," Mr. Ti-

wari added.

Also, for garnering an executive M.Tech., the student will have to complete 62 credits, out of which 12 credits of skill component are proposed to be delivered on the SID portal of NSDC through its strategic delivery partner.

For instance, in the tripartite partnership between IIT-Patna, NSDC and Teamlease, they have collaborated for a three-year degree programme – Bachelor of Computer Application (BCA). It is a 155-credit programme of which 146 academic credits shall be provided by the IIT-Patna, and nine credits (three per year) shall be covered through the skill-based programmes offered in collaboration between NSDC and Teamlease.

As per provisions of the National Education Policy (NEP), all programmes have been designed with

provision of multiple entry and exit options.

"Any student enrolled under four-year online UG programme will have the option to exit with a Foundational Certificate after first year, Diploma in the second year, Bachelor's Degree in third year and Honours degree in fourth year," Mr. Tiwari said.

For the two-year executive M.Tech., he said that students who enrol in a 12-month PG Diploma programme can further extend the course to obtain the master's degree from the IIT after completion of the PG Diploma.

In addition, candidates will have an option to take up the 12-month PG Diploma and opt out without going for the M.Tech course. The students choosing to opt out after the first semester of PG Diploma will have an option to exit with a PG certification.



Most Important Topics For

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ಉಪಗ್ರಹ ಆಧಾರಿತ ಟೋಲ್

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-ಮೈಸೂರು ಹೈವೇಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಾಯೋಗಿಕ ಚಾಲನೆ | ಬಳಸಿದಷ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಬಳಕೆ ಶುಲ್ಕ

■ ಶ್ರೀಧರ್ ಎಸ್. ರಾಮನಗರ

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ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-ಮೈಸೂರು ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಪ್ರೆಸ್ ಹೈವೇಯಲ್ಲಿ ಜಿಪಿಎಸ್ ಆಧಾರಿತ ಟೋಲ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಜಾರಿಗೆ ತರಲು ಕೇಂದ್ರ ರಸ್ತೆ ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ ಸಚಿವಾಲಯ ಚಿಂತನೆ ನಡೆಸಿದೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರು ಸಂಚರಿಸಿದಷ್ಟು ದೂರಕ್ಕೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಟೋಲ್ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಪಾವತಿ ಮಾಡಬಹುದು.

ಮಾರ್ಚ್ ತಿಂಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ದಿಲ್ಲಿ-ಜಯಪುರ ನಡುವಿನ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ(ಎನ್‌ಎಚ್-48) ಮತ್ತು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-ಮೈಸೂರು ನಡುವಿನ ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಪ್ರೆಸ್ ವೇ (ಎನ್‌ಎಚ್-275) ಈ 2 ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಾಯೋಗಿಕವಾಗಿ ಮಾರ್ಚ್‌ನಿಂದ ಜಿಪಿಎಸ್ ಆಧಾರಿತ ಟೋಲ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಅಳವಡಿಸಲು ಸಿದ್ಧತೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವುದಾಗಿ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದ ಮೂಲಗಳು ತಿಳಿಸಿವೆ.

ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ರಸ್ತೆ ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ ಸಚಿವ ನಿತೀನ್ ಗಡ್ಕರಿ ಅವರು ಸಂಸತ್ತಿನಲ್ಲಿ "ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರಿಗೆ ಟೋಲ್ ಪ್ಲಾಜಾ ಬಳಿ ವಿಳಂಬ ಆಗುವುದನ್ನು ತಪ್ಪಿಸುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ ಜಿಪಿಎಸ್ ಆಧಾರಿತ ಟೋಲ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಜಾರಿ ಮಾಡುತ್ತೇವೆ," ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದ್ದರು.

ಟೋಲ್‌ಗಳ ಬಳಿ ಟೋಲ್ ಪಾವತಿಗಾಗಿ ವಾಹನಗಳು ನಿಲುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡುವುದರಿಂದ ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಯಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಕ್ರಿಸ್‌ಮಸ್ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಸರಣಿ ರಜೆ ಇದ್ದ ಕಾರಣ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ವಾಹನಗಳು ರಸ್ತೆಗಳಿಂದ ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-ಮೈಸೂರು ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಪ್ರೆಸ್‌ನ ಕಣಮಿಣಕೆ ಟೋಲ್ ಬಳಿ ಗಂಟೆಗಟ್ಟಲೆ ವಾಹನಗಳು ಕಾಯುವಂತಾಗಿತ್ತು. ವಾಹನಗಳು ಟೋಲ್ ಬಳಿ ಸುಗಮವಾಗಿ ಸಂಚರಿಸುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಸಚಿವಾಲಯದ ಮಹತ್ವದ ಯೋಜನೆಯೇ ಜಿಪಿಎಸ್ ಟೋಲ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ.

ಹೊಸ ವಿಧಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಜಿಪಿಎಸ್ ಯಂತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ವಾಹನಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಳವಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಜಿಪಿಎಸ್ ಯಂತ್ರ ಉಪಗ್ರಹ ದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದು ವಾಹನ ಎಲ್ಲಿಂದ ಟೋಲ್ ರಸ್ತೆಗೆ ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಪಡೆದಿದೆ. ಯಾವ ಸ್ಥಳದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ಗಮಿಸಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಆಧರಿಸಿ ಗ್ರಾಹಕರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಖಾತೆಯಿಂದ ಹಣ ಕಡಿತವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದು ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಎಷ್ಟು ದೂರ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಸುತ್ತಾರೋ ಅಷ್ಟು ದೂರಕ್ಕೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಪಾವತಿ ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ಕಡಿಮೆ ದೂರು ಕ್ರಮಿಸಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು



ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-ಮೈಸೂರು ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಪ್ರೆಸ್ ಹೈವೇ.

18 ಲಕ್ಷ ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ವಾಹನಗಳಿಗೆ ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಜಿಪಿಎಸ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಅಳವಡಿಕೆ

08 ನಿಮಿಷ 2018-19ಕ್ಕೆ ಮೊದಲು ಟೋಲ್ ಪ್ಲಾಜಾಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಹನಗಳು ಕಾಯುವ ಸಮಯ

48 ಸೆಕೆಂಡ್ ಫಾಸ್ಟ್‌ಟ್ಯಾಗ್ ಜಾರಿ ಬಳಿಕ ಟೋಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಲ್ಲುವ ಸಮಯ

00 ಜಿಪಿಎಸ್ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಅಳವಡಿಸಿದ ನಂತರ ಟೋಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಹನಗಳು ನಿಲ್ಲುವ ಸಮಯ

2021ರಿಂದ ಫಾಸ್ಟ್‌ಟ್ಯಾಗ್ ಕಡ್ಡಾಯ

ಶುಲ್ಕ ಪಾವತಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ಟೋಲ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಗೆ ಕಡಿವಾಣ ಬೀಳಲಿದೆ.

ಇನ್ನು ಎಂಟ್ರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಎಕ್ಸಿಟ್ ಬಳಿ ಎಎನ್‌ಪಿಆರ್ (ಆಟೋಮ್ಯಾಟಿಕ್ ನಂಬರ್ ಪ್ಲೇಟ್ ರೀಡರ್) ಕ್ಯಾಮೆರಾ ಅಳವಡಿಸುವ ಮೂಲಕ ವಾಹನಗಳು ಯಾವಾಗ, ಎಲ್ಲಿಂದ, ಎಲ್ಲಿಯ ವರೆಗೆ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಸುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ದಾಖಲಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಜಿಪಿಎಸ್ ಇಲ್ಲದ ವಾಹನಗಳಿಗೆ ನಂಬರ್ ಪ್ಲೇಟ್ ಸಹಾಯದಿಂದ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಪಾವತಿ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಲು ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ ಚಿಂತನೆ ನಡೆಸಿರುವುದಾಗಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಗೆ ಬರುತ್ತಿರುವ ಕೆಲವು ಕಾರುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಜಿಪಿಎಸ್ ಅಳವಡಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಎಂದು ಎನ್‌ಎಚ್‌ಎಐ ಮೂಲಗಳು ವಿವರಿಸಿವೆ.

ಮತ್ತಷ್ಟು ಸಮಯ ಉಳಿತಾಯ: ಈ ಮೊದಲು ಟೋಲ್

ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ನಮಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಇಲ್ಲ, ಎಲ್ಲವನ್ನೂ ನಮ್ಮ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಕಚೇರಿಯಿಂದ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು.

- ರಾಹುಲ್ ಗುಪ್ತ, ಯೋಜನಾ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ, ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ

ಜಿಪಿಎಸ್ ಪರಿಣಾಮ

■ ಎಷ್ಟು ದೂರ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಸುತ್ತಾರೋ ಅಷ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಟೋಲ್ ಶುಲ್ಕ

■ ಕಡಿಮೆ ದೂರಕ್ಕೆ ಅಧಿಕ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಪಾವತಿ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಗೆ ಕಡಿವಾಣ

ಪ್ಲಾಜಾಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶುಲ್ಕವನ್ನು ನಗದು ರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾವತಿ ಮಾಡಿ ಸಂಚರಿಸಬೇಕಿತ್ತು. 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ ಫಾಸ್ಟ್‌ಟ್ಯಾಗ್ ಕಡ್ಡಾಯಗೊಳಿಸಲಾಯಿತು. 2018-19ಕ್ಕೆ ಮೊದಲು ಟೋಲ್ ಪ್ಲಾಜಾಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಹನಗಳು ಕಾಯುವ ಸಮಯ 8 ನಿಮಿಷ ಇದ್ದರೆ, ಫಾಸ್ಟ್‌ಟ್ಯಾಗ್ ಜಾರಿಯಾದ ಬಳಿಕ 48 ಸೆಕೆಂಡ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಇಳಿದಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ವಾಹನ ದಟ್ಟಣೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿದ್ದಾಗ ಫಾಸ್ಟ್‌ಟ್ಯಾಗ್‌ನಲ್ಲೂ ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ಸಮಯ ಕಾಯುವಂತಾಗಿದ್ದು ಇದನ್ನು ತಪ್ಪಿಸುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ ಜಿಪಿಎಸ್ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಅಳವಡಿಸಲು ಸಾರಿಗೆ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಮುಂದಾಗಿದೆ. ಜಿಪಿಎಸ್ ಟೋಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಹನಗಳು ಟೋಲ್ ಪ್ಲಾಜಾ ಬಳಿ ನಿಲುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡದೆ ನೇರವಾಗಿ ಸಂಚರಿಸುತ್ತವೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ದಾಗಿ ವಾಹನಗಳ ದಟ್ಟಣೆ ನಡುವೆಯೂ ಸುಗಮ ಸಂಚಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಸಹಕಾರಿಯಾಗಲಿದೆ.

With rising use of drones, DRDO develops own counter technology

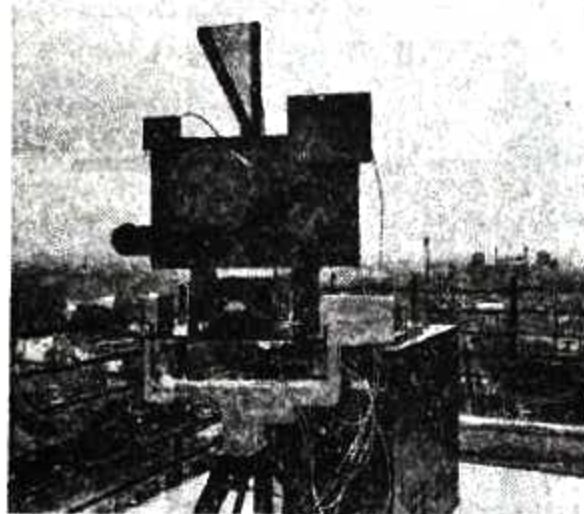
MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

AMIDST the rising deployment of drones for surveillance, logistics support and even attack, India is working to develop effective counter-technology. This is along with the multiple types of drones being developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

As per the report recently tabled by a parliamentary standing committee, the DRDO is developing "indigenous counter-drone technology, which is capable of counter-attacks including detection, soft kill and hard kill of all types of drones."

"The counter-drone system is ready for production and is already demonstrated to armed services and other internal security agencies," said sources, adding, "The technology is transferred to Bharat Electronics Limited, Bengaluru, who is the production agency for the system. In addition, Transfer of Technology is given to four more Indian firms for production of anti-drone systems."

"Anti-drone technology is



where the focus should be, and in that, DRDO is working very closely with the industry. We are also doing a lot of R&D for anti-drone protection against these types of drones," said a DRDO representative.

The work on meeting the rising demand for different types of drones is also being carried out, including micro-drones.

The Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (TAPAS) developed for ISTAR (Intelligence in Surveillance, Reconnaissance, and Target Acquisition) application is in the advanced stage of developmental trials.

Short Range Armed UAV

In advanced stages

"The counter-drone system is ready for production and is already demonstrated to armed services and internal security agencies," said sources. "The technology is transferred to BEL in Bengaluru, the production agency for the system. Four more Indian firms are tasked for production of anti-drone systems."

(Archer) is being developed for Reconnaissance, Surveillance and low intensity conflict. "Developmental flight trials are under progress," a DRDO statement said.

Meanwhile, the parliamentary committee report also talks about the delays in the project by the DRDO. Of the 55 projects, 23 were not completed within the stipulated time.

The DRDO secretary apprised before the committee that "as a measure, we are now hiring a consultant, who will tell us the major reasons due to which projects are getting delayed. Based on that, we will try to correct."

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HEALTH



ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಪಕ್ಕ ಸ್ಥಳಾನ: ಹೆರಿಗೆಗೆ ಬರುವವರಿಲ್ಲ!

ಸುಸಜ್ಜಿತ ಹೆರಿಗೆ ಕೊಠಡಿ ಇದ್ದರೂ ಬಾರದ ಗರ್ಭಿಣಿಯರು | ಸ್ಥಳಾನ ಮಗ್ಗುಲಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆರಿಗೆ ಮಾಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ನಕಾರ ಬೀದರ್ ನ 35000 ಜನರ 12 ಗ್ರಾಮ, 3 ತಾಂಡಾದ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಹೆರಿಗೆ ಕೊಠಡಿ 3 ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ಬಿಕೋ

■ ಶತಿಕಾಂತ ಬಂಬುಳಗೆ

ಉದಯವಾಣಿ ಸಮಾಚಾರ

ಬೀದರ್: ಕೋಟ್ಯಂತರ ರೂಪಾಯಿ ವೆಚ್ಚದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಧುನಿಕ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳ ಜತೆ ಹೊಸ ಕಟ್ಟಡ-ಸುಸಜ್ಜಿತ ಹೆರಿಗೆ ಕೋಣೆಯೂ ಸಿದ್ಧವಾಗಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಹೆರಿಗೆ ಗಾಗಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರೇ ದಾವಿಲಾಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಕಾರಣ-ಪಕ್ಕದಲ್ಲೇ ಇರುವ ಸ್ಥಳಾನ!

ಇದು ಬೀದರ್ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಬಗದಲ್ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರವನ್ನು ಕಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ 'ಮೌಢ್ಯ'ದ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ.

ಬಗದಲ್ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸುತ್ತಲಿನ 12 ಗ್ರಾಮ ಮತ್ತು ಮೂರು ತಾಂಡಾಗಳ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿ ಹೊಂದಿದೆ. ಇಲ್ಲಿ 35 ಸಾವಿರ ಜನಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಇದೆ. ಈ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಪಕ್ಕದಲ್ಲೇ ಸ್ಥಳಾನವಿದೆ. ಈ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಗರ್ಭಿಣಿಯರು ಹೆರಿಗೆಗೆ ಬರಲು ಹಿಂದೇಟು ಹಾಕುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ ಈವರೆಗೂ ಒಂದೂ ಹೆರಿಗೆ ಆಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಗು



ಬೀದರ್: ಬಗದಲ್ ಹೊರವಲಯದ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರ. ಪಕ್ಕದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಸ್ಥಳಾನ.

ಜನಿಸಿದರೆ ಭವಿಷ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಕೇಡಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂಬ ಆತಂಕ ಅವರನ್ನು ಇತ್ತ ಸುಳಿಯದಂತೆ ಮಾಡಿದೆ.

ಹೋಬಳಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರವಾದ ಬಗದಲ್‌ದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಹಿಂದೆ ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ, ಕಟ್ಟಡ ಶಿಥಿಲಗೊಂಡಿ ದ್ದರಿಂದ ಮೂರು ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆ ಗ್ರಾಮದಿಂದ

ಎರಡು ಕಿ.ಮೀ. ದೂರದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋಟ್ಯಂತರ ರೂಪಾಯಿ ಖರ್ಚು ಮಾಡಿ ಹೊಸ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಮೊದಲು ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ರಸ್ತೆ ಇಲ್ಲದೆ ಬೀಗ ಜಡಿಯಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಈಗ ರಸ್ತೆ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣಗೊಂಡು ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಆರಂಭಗೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಇದು ಕೇವಲ ಜ್ವರ, ಕಮ್ಮು ಮತ್ತು

ಬಗದಲ್ ಹೊರವಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಸಜ್ಜಿತ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿದ್ದರೂ ಪಕ್ಕದಲ್ಲೇ ಸ್ಥಳಾನ ಇರುವ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆ ಹೆರಿಗೆಗಾಗಿ ಯಾರೂ ಬರುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಮೂಡಿಸಿದರೂ ಪ್ರಯೋಜನವಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ ಹಳೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲೇ ಹೆರಿಗೆ ಮಾಡಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

● **ಡಾ.ಸಂದೀಪ ಘೋಡೆ,** ಆರೋಗ್ಯಾಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಬಗದಲ್

ಶೀತದಂತಹ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ರೋಗಿಗಳ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಗಷ್ಟೇ ಸೀಮಿತವಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸದ್ಯ ಹಳೆಯ ಶಿಥಿಲ ಕಟ್ಟಡದಲ್ಲೇ ಹೆರಿಗೆ ಮಾಡಿಸ ಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಗರ್ಭಿಣಿಯರು ಬಂದಾಗ ದೂರದ ಹೊಸ ಕಟ್ಟಡದಿಂದ ವೈದ್ಯರು ಮತ್ತು ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ಇಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ಬರುತ್ತಾರೆ.

► 5ನೇ ಪುಟಕ್ಕೆ

India's first health food street launched in Ujjain

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT & ANURAG SINGH @ New Delhi/ Bhopal

INDIA'S first healthy and hygienic food street 'Prasadam' was launched on Sunday by Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya in the holy city of Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh.

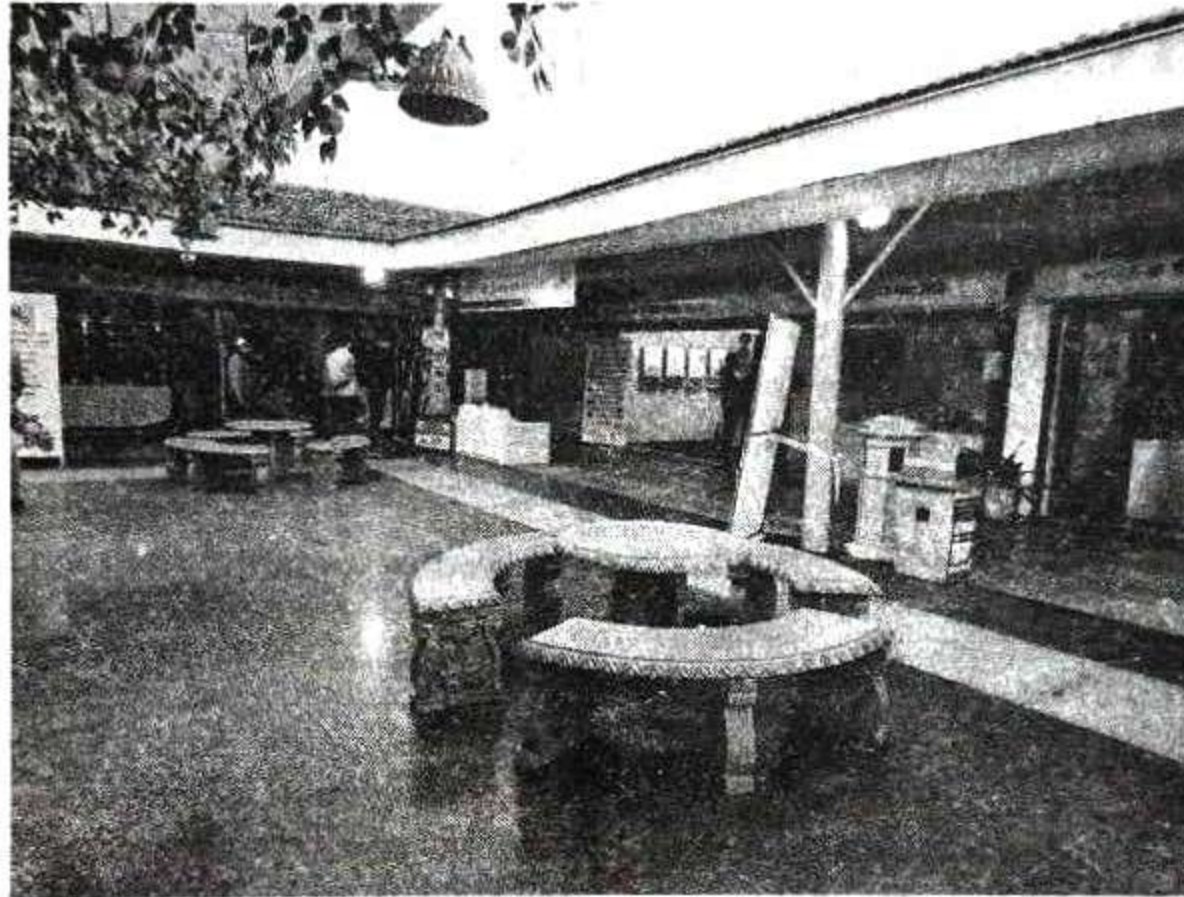
The food street at Neelkanth Van, Mahakal Lok in Ujjain, will be the first of 100 food streets that will come up in as many districts across the country. Housing the world-famous Mahakal Temple, Ujjain is also the home city of MP's new Chief Minister Mohan Yadav.

Mandaviya, who opened the food street hub, along with the Chief Minister, stated that the launch marks a significant stride in the country's journey towards healthy eating habits.

"Prasadam will connect common citizens in every corner of the country with pure and safe local and traditional food," Mandaviya said.

The two leaders also launched several other projects, including a 30-bed additional ward under the emergency COVID response package.

To achieve the vision of 'Viksit Bharat', the citizens of the



Prasadam, the health food street opened in Ujjain on Sunday | EXPRESS

nation must be healthy, the health minister said.

Later, Mandaviya launched the official website for the Healthy and Hygienic Food Street initiative and unveiled a brochure outlining the standard operating procedures for these food hubs.

According to officials, the financial assistance for the initiative to the states/UTs is being provided in the form of ₹1

crore per food street under National Health Mission (NHM) in the ratio of 60:40 or 90:10 to fill up critical gaps, with the condition that standard branding of these food streets will be done as per FSSAI guidelines, they added.

Spread over an area of 939 square meters area, the Prasadam, which will house 19 shops, has been developed at a cost of ₹1.75 crore and will re-

portedly become fully functional by February first week. Besides, it will offer convenient and culturally rich dining options for the 1-1.5 lakh devotees who visit the Mahakaleshwar Temple daily.

The newly launched food street is designed to provide various facilities including a kids' play area, drinking water facility, CCTV surveillance, parking, public conveniences and seating spaces, officials said.

'Prasadam' will also contribute to economic growth and community engagement, the officials added.

On Saturday, while chairing a meeting through video-conferencing in Indore, the Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav took stock of preparations for the National Youth Day, Makar Sankranti festival and the deposition of the next instalment under the Ladli Behna Yojana.

It was also decided to hold programmes based on women's empowerment across the state from January 10 to January 15. Besides, other programmes will also be organised during the Makar Sankranti festival and National Youth Day.



Business Finance

GST reveals dissonance in consumption growth

On the other hand, eight States, led by Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana have seen State GST revenues rise in a range of 17% to 18.8%.

“Gujarat, West Bengal, Delhi and Odisha are among the top 10 GST contributors where growth was slower, while eight States have driven the overall collections with growth higher than the national average. This is indicative of consumption being uneven across geographies... and may explain why overall consumption in the country has not been growing at a higher pace,” the bank’s economists concluded in a research note on variations in State GST collections.

“Quite clearly, an improvement in consumption across some of the States that are lagging today will help boost both GDP growth and GST collections,” the bank’s researchers, led by chief economist Madan Sabnavis, noted. In States like Odisha, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh, where GST revenues have grown less than 11% so far this year, tepid rural demand due to weaker farm sector outcomes could have played a factor, they reckoned.

Lack of wage growth

India Ratings and Research economists flagged the lack of significant wage growth, which turned marginally negative for lower income households while rising 6.4% for their upper income counterparts in the second quarter of this year, as another critical factor for consumption growth.

Flight scare: Bird-hit incidents on rise in Gujarat

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA

@ Ahmedabad

AIRPORTS across Gujarat have witnessed a surge in bird-hit incidents involving aircraft with the state reporting as many as 462 cases in the past five years, as per government data.

In response to a question in the Rajya Sabha by MP Parimal Nathwani on December 11, 2023, the Civil Aviation Ministry stated that the incidents in Gujarat include 80 in 2018, 50 in 2019, 77 in 2020, 69 in 2021, 72 in 2022, and the highest of 114 in 2023 ranking the state third in the country in terms of bird hits.

As per the government data, a highest number of bird-hit cases were reported in Delhi with 705 incidents, followed by Maharashtra (611), Gujarat (462), Tamil Nadu (391), Karnataka (367), and Kerala (343).

The government, in its response to the RTI, stated that the majority of bird strikes in Gujarat have occurred at the Ahmedabad airport.

According to Ahmedabad Airport statistics, a total of 73 bird-hit occurrences were re-



THIRD IN COUNTRY

Civil Aviation Ministry stated that Gujarat ranks third in the country for bird hits

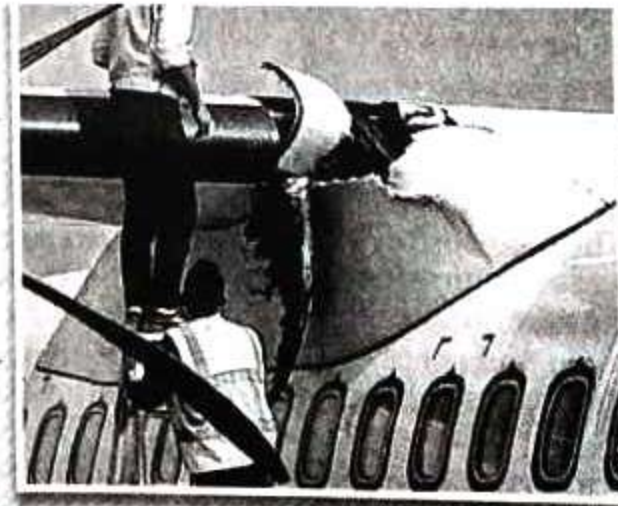
Majority of bird strikes in Gujarat have occurred at the Ahmedabad airport

ported in 2019-20, whereas 41 were reported in 2020-21, 29 in 2021-22, and 38 in 2022-23.

While an animal strike was reported in 2020, another oc-

FLYING THREAT

BIRD HITS IN INDIA IN LAST FIVE YEAR DELHI TOPS IN FIVE YEARS



curred in 2022.

The city of Surat in Gujarat has the second-highest number of bird hits, with 20 in 2020-21, 21 in 2021-22, and 15 in 2022-23,

according to official statistics. Sanjay Jain of the 'Working Airport at Surat group' alleged that the main reason for bird hits at the Surat airport is the presence of illegal shrimp ponds around the airport.

The birds flock the water body to catch the shrimps leading to bird-hits at the airport. Many submissions have been made in connection with it.

However, the issue has yet to be rectified. Vadodara comes in third place in bird-hit with two incidents in 2020-21, as many as 11 in 2021-22, and 25 in 2022-23, while Rajkot airport ranks fourth with 4 cases in the year 2020-21, six in 2021-22, and zero incidents reported in 2022-23.

An aviation activist on the condition of anonymity, stated, "Lakhs of rupees are spent every year to control bird strikes at Gujarat airports. This includes the routine use of firecrackers, laser guns, zone guns, ferrous light traps, and so on."

"However, the bird strike was uncontrollable. Bird strikes imperil passengers' lives while also causing significant damage to the aircraft," he added.

UPI is now all set to revolutionise payments in stock market

UPI for secondary market will change the way investors buy shares as they can block the amount in bank accounts instead of transferring it to broker's account

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE Unified Payment Interface (UPI), the digital payment system built by the government of India, is now ready to revolutionise the payment system in the Indian stock market.

The National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) in collaboration with brokerage firms and clearing houses has launched the beta phase of 'UPI for Secondary Market' from 1 January.

UPI for Secondary market is an ASBA (Application Supported by Blocked Amount) like service, where an investor can block their amount used for buying stocks in the secondary market in their bank accounts instead of transferring it to the broker's account. The amount will only be debited by the Clearing Corporations upon trade confirmation during settlement. Clearing Corporations will directly process payouts to these clients

on a T+1 basis.

Currently, ASBA facility is only limited for buying shares from the primary market, that is, in applying for IPOs. The UPI-enabled ASBA facility will change the way investors buy stocks in the secondary market.

UPI is now touching every aspect of people's lives. It is no longer limited to payments to grocery stores, roadside vegetable vendors or for Uber taxi rides. UPI is growing bigger and better with every passing day. Here's a reminder to people what UPI can do and where all it can be used apart from buying stocks in the secondary market:

UPI payments through credit card: Earlier, UPI payments could be linked to bank accounts, prepaid wallets, overdraft facility. Last year, UPI facilitated payments through credit cards. Several public sector and private banks have already launched this facility

UPI BENEFITS

NPCI and brokerage firms launched the beta phase of UPI for secondary market from Jan 1

The UPI-enabled ASBA facility will change the way investors buy stocks in the stock market

Earlier, UPI payments could be linked to bank accounts, prepaid wallets and overdraft facility



Recently, IndusInd Bank became the first bank in the country to integrate UPI functionality with a Corporate Credit Card

The RBI has enhanced the UPI transaction limit for payment to hospitals and educational institutions from Rs 1 L to Rs 5 L

NRIs with international nos can do UPI transactions in India. This was allowed through a circular in Jan 2023

on RuPay credit cards. The functionality can be availed through registering the credit card with third party UPI apps. Cardholders can enroll their active primary cards on UPI and make payments to merchants (P2M transactions) us-

ing their credit cards. This facility is free for customers. The linking of RuPay credit cards to UPI will ensure that customers will no longer have to carry their credit cards with them at all times for payments.

Recently, IndusInd Bank be-

came the first bank in the country to integrate UPI functionality with a Corporate Credit Card. In a press statement, the bank said: "IndusInd Bank eS-varna credit cardholders can look forward to a luxurious travel experience, including complimentary lounge access and fuel surcharge waiver. Corporate travellers can receive the added benefit of comprehensive travel insurance coverage and an exclusive rewards program meticulously crafted for corporate entities, which makes this credit card a valuable financial solution for various business transactions."

Enhanced UPI transaction limit for specified categories: The RBI recently enhanced the UPI transaction limit for payment to hospitals and educational institutions from ₹1 lakh to ₹5 lakh per transaction.

This, according to the central bank, will help the consumers to make UPI payments

of higher amounts for education and healthcare purposes. For normal UPI the transaction limit is up to ₹1 lakh per transaction. For few specific categories of transaction in UPI like capital markets, collections, insurance, foreign inward remittances the transaction limit is up to ₹2 lakh and for Initial Public Offering and retail direct scheme the limit is up to ₹5 lakh per transaction.

Bringing Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPI Wallets) to UPI ecosystem: Last year, the RBI allowed the PPI wallets to be part of the interoperable UPI ecosystem. With this addition to UPI, customers now have the choice of using any bank accounts, RuPay Credit card and prepaid wallets on UPI enabled apps. Payments made from prepaid wallets via UPI apps are free of cost. Though there are interchange charges applicable only for the PPI merchant transactions.

NRIs can use UPI for domestic transactions: NRIs with international numbers can do UPI transactions in India. NRIs through their NRE/NRO accounts can make UPI payments even through their international mobile numbers. This was allowed through a circular in January 2023. However, such transactions must follow all the FEMA (Foreign Exchange Management Act) and Anti-money laundering regulations.

UPI Lite and Lite X: This payment solution allows low value transactions up to ₹500 without utilising a Remitter bank's core banking systems in real-time. These payments can be made without the user having to key in the PIN.

With UPI Lite X, one can make payments even in places with bad connectivity and poor networks. These payments can be made without the need of an internet connection on the payers or the recipient's phone.

HOW MUCH MONEY IS ENOUGH TO BE HAPPY



FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR

(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

situation and fear inflation.

If an average American can be happy with that money, those living in India can be a little more happy with that amount (₹ 10 crore) or live with a lot less to get there. If you live in a city in India, the cost of living is much cheaper than that of your American counterpart. For example, your average breakfast cost outside your home in India is a fraction of what you would pay in an American city. It is a no-brainer that the cost of making any consumer good in India is less than that in the rich world.

Happiness is not confined to you, making your daily subsistence comfortable. It involves possessing those things in life that bring comfort. A lot of migration overseas is due to a better quality of life. In countries like Western Europe or Scandinavia, you pay half of your income as tax in your working years. However, the government provides you with a universal basic income and quality healthcare on retirement.

In India, you must do much more to secure your financial future. There is no concept of a universal basic income. Quality healthcare is available to those with money for now. The government is allocating more resources, but India's massive population will always leave people out of the equation.

That means expectations in India could vary for the right amount of money to make you happy. It also depends on

where you live in India. If you go by the standard thumb rule of cost of living, you would probably need ₹2.5 crore for the same level of happiness in India. That is assuming you do not have monthly liabilities like loan EMIs.

You can quickly generate a 9-10% return on that yearly. That means the sweet spot in India could be about ₹24 lakh per annum or ₹2 lakh a month. That could go up every year with inflation.

You cannot use all of the money for living life and spending. Even when you get to that stage, you must continue investing to counter in-

flation. That means your monthly expenses must be much less than ₹2 lakh.

You are in a good place if you do not pay for your home when you get there. The amount of ₹2 lakh per month should be enough for a comfortable middle-class life in a city in India. But then, our life does not stop at needs. There are wants and desires. You need more than ₹2 lakh a month for those looking for more comfort.

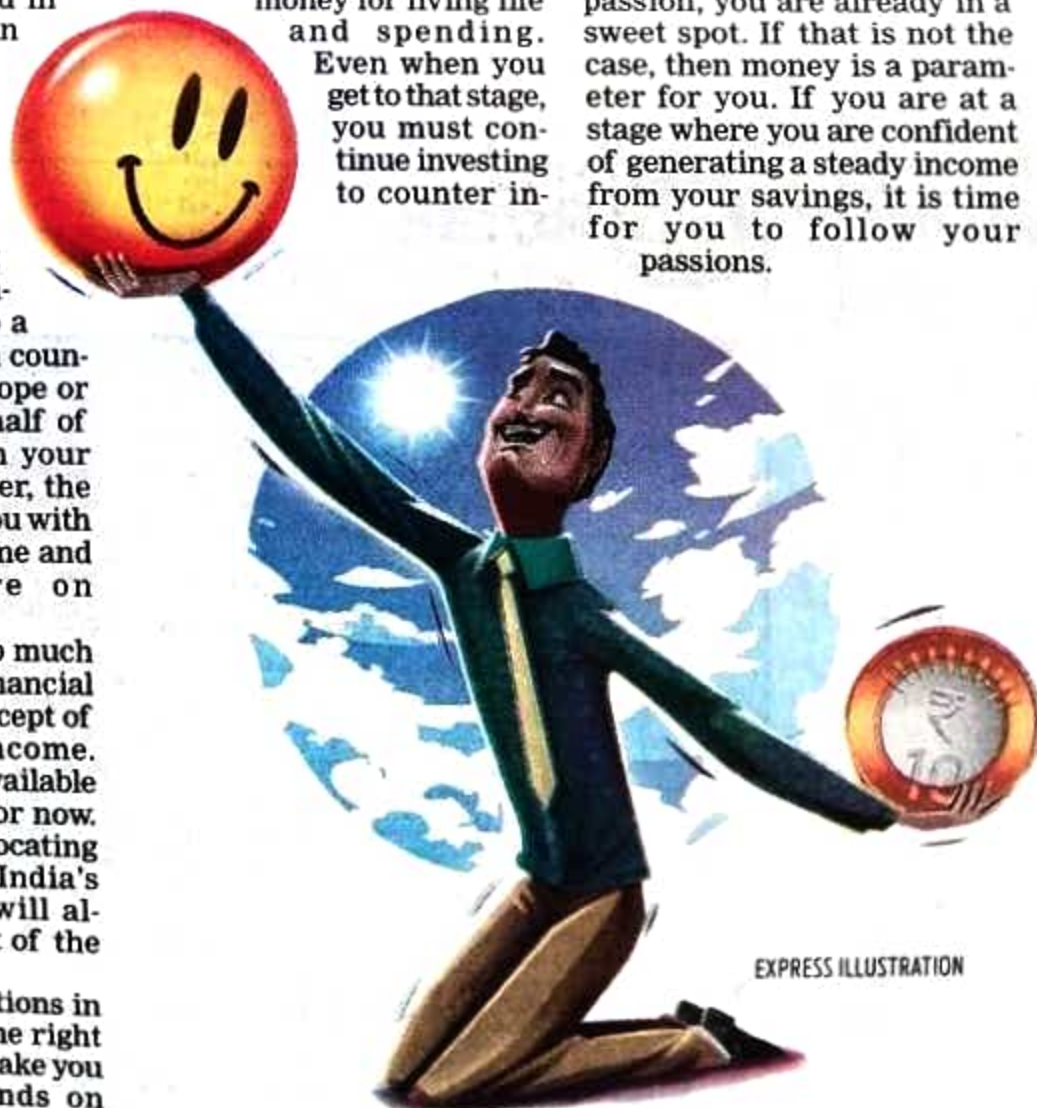
If your work is already your passion, you are already in a sweet spot. If that is not the case, then money is a parameter for you. If you are at a stage where you are confident of generating a steady income from your savings, it is time for you to follow your passions.

THE pursuit of happiness is a fundamental right. In a democracy, a limit cannot be imposed on individuals in their right to pursue happiness. Money plays a significant role in that for most people.

If you go by a new survey of over 2,000 American adults published last week, they just found an answer to the question of how much money they need in the bank to be happy. An average American believes \$1.2 million (₹10 crore) is enough to make you happy. It is just about the sum you need to follow your passion and not worry about a routine life. You need not have a 9 am to 6 pm job and do things you love. That also entails not worrying about paying monthly bills or spending more than expected on wants.

Empower, an American financial services firm, found in the survey that six in ten Americans believe money can buy happiness. Most are Millennials and Gen Z or those born in the 80s and beyond. Their idea of the specific amount varies.

The younger lot think they need more, while the older people are happy with less. That is a natural function of the perception of inflation. The young look at the present



EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

Key Apple suppliers to invest Rs 13,000 crore in Tamil Nadu

ETB SIVAPRIYAN
CHENNAI, DHNS,

Apple suppliers Tata Electronics and Pegatron, automobile major Hyundai, Vietnamese electric vehicle maker VinFast, JSW Energy, and Godrej Consumer are some of the major firms that pledged over Rs 60,000 crore for expansion of their existing units or launching new projects in Tamil Nadu on Sunday on the first day of the Tamil Nadu Global Investors' Meet.

The state has set a target of attracting investment pledges to the tune of Rs 5.5 lakh crore during the third edition of the GIM. The announcements made on Sunday alone would generate over 60,000 jobs.

Vinfast topped the list with a pledge of Rs 16,000 crore to set up a unit to manufacture electric cars and batteries in Thoothukudi while Tata promised Rs 12,000 crore for the expansion of its Hosur unit and to set up a mobile phone assembly unit for iPhones within the same campus.

Taiwan's Pegatron, another key contract



manufacturer of Apple Inc, pledged to invest Rs 1,000 crore to expand its existing manufacturing plant in Singaperumalkovil near Chennai that assembles iPhones, generating 8,000 jobs.

Hyundai will invest Rs 6,180 crore in a electric car and battery unit at its existing plant and to set up an Hydrogen Innovation Valley with IIT-Madras, while Godrej Consumer will invest Rs 515 crore. Qualcomm (Rs 177 crore), TVS group (Rs 5,000 crore in realty, automobile, and IT), and Mitsubishi Electric (Rs 200 crore to expand its air conditioner manufacturing unit) were some of the other investments promised.

JSW Energy said it will invest Rs 12,000 crores in renewable energy projects across

Tamil Nadu generating about 6,600 jobs, while Tata Power will make a formal announcement on Monday on new investments in the state to the tune of Rs 55,000 crore over a period of seven years.

"I have set an ambitious target of transforming Tamil Nadu's economy into a 1 trillion USD economy by 2030. To achieve this, we are pursuing a twin-pronged approach of attracting both capital and employment-intensive investments," Chief Minister M K Stalin said.

Though the two Apple suppliers didn't release a formal statement, the MoUs signed by them said Tatas will invest the amount for expanding the enclosure manufacturing unit and setting up a mobile phone assembly unit, while Pegatron will spend the money for setting up a manufacturing unit for computing, communication, and consumer electronics.

The event also saw the state releasing an exclusive semiconductor and advanced electronics policy to attract anchor investments in the sector and to create a skilled talent pool of 2 lakh people by 2030.



Perry, Garth shine in a low-scoring encounter as Australia levels series

The former makes her 300th international game special by finishing the match with a six; visitors chase down 131 with six wickets to spare

AUSTRALIA IN INDIA

Shayan Acharya
NAVI MUMBAI

Chants of 'India, India' echoed at the DY Patil Stadium on Sunday as Shafali Verma and Smriti Mandhana walked out to bat in the second T20I against Australia. After a convincing win in the series opener, the expectations were high from the home team and a 42,000-plus strong crowd ensured that they backed the Women in Blue to the hilt.

However, it all turned futile in the end as a batting collapse saw India crawling to 130 for eight before Australia rode on an unbeaten 34 (21b, 3x4, 2x6) by Ellyse Perry – featuring in her 300th international fixture – to clinch a six-wicket win and square the series.

While the Indian batters, barring Deepti Sharma (31, 27b, 5x4), failed to convert the start, it was a commendable bowling effort by Australia. Overcoming an abject performance in the previous game, Kim Garth (two for 27) dealt an



Double strike: Garth's spell (4-0-27-2) set up a thumping win for Australia. EMMANUAL YOGINI

early blow to the home team, trapping Shafali Verma LBW and followed it up with the precious scalp of Jemimah Rodrigues, who was caught behind the stumps by Alyssa Healy after starting with three fours.

Having lost two of its big hitters early, India struggled to 33 for two in the PowerPlay. Coming on the back of a half-century,

Smriti did hit a six and a couple of boundaries, but she could not control a short ball from Annabel Sutherland and pulled one straight to Perry at deep mid-wicket.

With captain Harmanpreet Kaur, too, struggling, Deepti and Richa Ghosh forged a 33-run partnership for the fifth wicket, providing a ray of hope. Richa hammered a massive

six off Ashleigh Gardner but failed to push on for a big score and was trapped leg-before off a slower delivery from Georgia Wareham. At one point, it looked difficult for India to breach the 120-run mark, but Deepti struck a few boundaries towards the end.

Australia began the chase steadily with captain Healy and Mooney stitch-

SCOREBOARD

INDIA
Shafali Verma lbw b Garth 1 (6b), Smriti Mandhana c Perry b Sutherland 23 (26b, 2x4, 1x6), Jemimah Rodrigues c Healy b Garth 13 (9b, 3x4), Harmanpreet Kaur c Perry b Gardner 6 (12b), Richa Ghosh lbw b Wareham 23 (19b, 2x4, 1x6), Deepti Sharma run out 30 (27b, 5x4), Pooja Vastrakar lbw b Wareham 9 (12b), Amanjot Kaur c McGrath b Sutherland 4 (2b, 1x4), Shreyanka Patil (not out) 7 (8b, 1x4); Extras (b-1, lb-5, nb-1, w-7): 14; Total (for eight wkts. in 20 overs): 130.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-4 (Shafali, 1.4 overs), 2-20 (Jemimah, 3.6), 3-42 (Smriti, 7.5), 4-54 (Harmanpreet, 10.1), 5-87 (Richa, 14.1), 6-102 (Pooja, 16.6), 7-107 (Amanjot, 17.4), 8-130 (Deepti, 19.6).

AUSTRALIA BOWLING
Schutt 4-0-29-0, Garth 4-0-27-2, Gardner 4-0-33-1, Sutherland 4-0-18-2, Wareham 4-0-17-2.

ing a 51-run opening stand. After a four-fer in the opening game, the hopes were high for young Titas Sadhu.

However, Healy hammered two consecutive boundaries in her opening over. It looked like a cakewalk for the Aussies before Deepti struck in the eighth over, removing Healy and then got her second wicket in Mooney in her next over,

AUSTRALIA
Alyssa Healy c Shreyanka b Deepti 26 (21b, 4x4), Beth Mooney st. Richa b Deepti 20 (29b, 2x4), Tahlia McGrath c Richa b Shreyanka 19 (21b, 3x4), Ellyse Perry (not out) 34 (21b, 3x4, 2x6), Ashleigh Gardner c Richa b Pooja 7 (10b, 1x4), Phoebe Litchfield (not out) 18 (12b, 3x4); Extras (lb-1, w-8): 9; Total (for four wkts. in 19 overs): 133.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-51 (Healy, 7.1), 2-58 (Mooney, 9.1), 3-89 (McGrath, 13.5), 4-97 (Gardner, 15.4).

INDIA BOWLING
Renuka 4-0-22-0, Titas 3-0-21-0, Shreyanka 4-0-40-1, Deepti 4-0-22-2, Amanjot 2-0-19-0, Pooja 2-0-8-1.

Toss: Australia; **PoM:** Garth. Australia won by six wickets with one over remaining to level series 1-1.

Third and final T20I: January 9, 7 p.m.

courtesy of a quick stumping by Richa.

Though Australia lost Tahlia McGrath and Ashleigh Gardner in a short period, Perry and the in-form Phoebe Litchfield (18 n.o., 12b, 3x4) produced a match-winning unbeaten 36-run stand. Litchfield hit a couple of boundaries off Shreyanka Patil in the 19th over before Perry sealed the deal with a six.

Injured Nadal withdraws from Australian Open



Not the expected comeback: Nadal posted he will be flying back to Spain after scans revealed he had a small muscular tear. AFP

TENNIS

Associated Press
MELBOURNE

Rafael Nadal withdrew from the Australian Open with an injury a week before the season's first Major was due to start after playing just one tournament in his comeback from 12 months on the sidelines.

Nadal said he had concerns over his surgically repaired hip after needing a medical timeout in the third set of his Brisbane International quarterfinal loss to Jordan Thompson on Friday. The 22-time Major winner initially said it seemed like more of a muscular problem than the

tendon issue that caused him pain last year.

But he posted on social media on Sunday that scans after he arrived in Melbourne revealed a small tear in the muscle and he was flying back to Spain for treatment. "Right now I am not ready to compete at the maximum level," he posted on X.

"I have worked very hard during the year for this comeback and as I always mentioned my goal is to be at my best level in three months," he said.

Nadal was playing on a wild card in Brisbane but had a protected ranking for the Australian Open that would have given him a start in the 128-player main draw.

Zverev-led Germany beats Swiatek's Poland, clinches United Cup



United we win! Team Germany celebrates with the trophy. AFP

Agence France-Presse
SYDNEY

Alexander Zverev saved two match points in a gruelling three-set win over Hubert Hurkacz to help Germany upset top seeds Poland and clinch a maiden United Cup title in Sydney on Sunday.

The World No. 7 kept the tie alive with his never-say-die 6-7(7), 7-6(8), 6-4 victory after top-ranked Iga Swiatek had swept past Angelique Kerber 6-3, 6-0.

Zverev returned to partner Laura Siegemund and seal the title with a 6-4, 5-7, 10-4 win over Swiatek and Hurkacz in the decid-

Zverev saved two match points to turn the tables on Hurkacz in an exciting contest

ing mixed doubles.

"It was a matter of millimetres today for you guys (Poland) to be the champions," Zverev said at the presentation ceremony.

Hurkacz and Zverev had not met since the 2021 ATP Finals, where the German was eventually crowned champion.

The results (final):
Germany bt Poland 2-1 (Kerber lost to Swiatek 3-6, 0-6; Zverev bt Hurkacz 6-7(7), 7-6(8), 6-4; Siegemund & Zverev bt Swiatek & Hurkacz 6-4, 5-7, 10-4).

Back to the future for India

Rohit & Kohli return to the shortest format for the first time since the 2022 T20 World Cup

GOMESH S @Chennai

WHEN Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli walked off the field at the Adelaide Oval after losing to England in the 2022 T20 World Cup semifinal, if you had thought that could be it for them in T20Is, you would not have been mistaken. Rohit was 35, Kohli was 34 and they had an ODI World Cup and World Test Championship coming.

What more, the next generation had been pushing for a chance in the Indian Premier League with a captain waiting in Hardik Pandya. That the BCCI and selectors went with it in the New Zealand tour immediately after the T20 WC, and the bilateral series that followed indicated that India are moving on, entering a transition in the T20I format with youngsters getting opportunities. And they did make the most of it.

Since the last T20 World Cup, Suryakumar Yadav still tops the run-getter list, but Ruturaj Gaikwad (average 60 and strike rate 147.17), Yashasvi Jaiswal (avg 33 and SR 159.25), Shubman Gill (avg 26 and SR 145.11) Tilak Varma (avg 34.44 and SR 141.55) and Rinku Singh (avg 65.5 and 180.68 SR) have been the show stealers. It seemed like India are preparing a new T20I team that had a fresh outlook with a proactive batting line-up.

However, 14 months, 25 T20Is, and eight series later, Rohit and Kohli are all set to make a comeback in the shortest format for the three T20Is against Afghanistan that is to be played from January 11. Now, it does not come as a shock as the talks of the duo playing T20Is again be-



SQUAD: Rohit (Captain), Gill, Jaiswal, Kohli, Tilak, Rinku, Jitesh (wk), Sanju (wk), Dube, Washington, Axar, Bishnoi, Kuldeep, Arshdeep, Avesh, Mukesh.

gan shortly after India lost to Australia in the ODI World Cup final. While Rohit, on multiple occasions, indicated that there will be answers soon for the question of whether he is keen to play the T20 World Cup, Kohli had kept mum throughout.

While there were multiple arguments on either side of the spectrum as to whether or not Rohit and Kohli should be included there could be various

factors as to why the selectors have decided to lean on the side of playing both. For starters, in the time since the ODI World Cup ended, Pandya has been out of action with injury, SKY, who led the team against Australia and SA, suffered an ankle injury and is still recovering, and so is Gaikwad. Which means, going into the series India would have had to name their fourth captain since Rohit's last T20I

after Pandya, Bumrah and SKY. Hardik — who has replaced Rohit as Mumbai Indians captain — is expected to return to action in the IPL, and Bumrah, along with Mohammed Siraj who is rested, is going to play five Tests before entering the IPL meaning there is a void at the top (read captaincy). And that is not a good sign for a side with an abundant pool of players and resources in the lead up to a global event. Which means, having Rohit at the top, and as a captain, seems to be the safer option, especially after the way he batted in the ODI World Cup.

Now, what this means to the current squad is that Rohit could open with Jaiswal with Kohli to follow at No. 3. Then comes Tilak, Rinku and Jitesh Sharma in the middle. With Axar Patel being a starter, it would come down to Ravi Bishnoi or Washington Sundar and the pace attack. Gill is still waiting if one hadn't noticed. And, what would happen when Pandya and SKY come back? Who will make space? Will they make Rohit and Kohli open with SKY and Pandya coming in for Tilak and Jaiswal? Or will Jaiswal remain at top and Rinku makes way? Where does Jitesh fit in with Sanju Samson making the cut? Is there room for KL Rahul and Rishabh Pant if they do well in the IPL? One could keep going, but the press release does not have any answers.

While the squad they have named works well for the Afghanistan series, at the moment, there are more questions than answers about the Indian T20I team.

EDITORIAL

NEWS

Prepare India for the ascent

Corruption and communalism must be addressed if we are serious about becoming a developed nation

J K ARORA

India is currently in the spotlight as one of the world's fastest-growing large economies, aiming to reach a \$5 trillion economy by 2027 and become the world's third-largest economy by 2047, after the US and China. Achieving this dream requires our collective efforts as a nation.

Making an optimistic observation to see whether we will be able to achieve our ambitions, I find that our country faces various challenges that may pose serious obstacles to achieving our goal. Let me share my understanding of a couple of the most serious of these challenges and the possibilities of overcoming them.

I would not like to list out the numerous challenges that any nation, including the so-called developed nations, is facing and will continue to face even in the future, as newer challenges will emerge with time. In my view, the greatest challenges facing India today are:

- The all-encompassing corruption, including the emerging form of bribing the electorate in the form of freebies; and
- The increasing communal divide resulting in the feelings of the minorities, particularly the Muslim community, that they are being discriminated against.

These are serious issues, and every citizen should be concerned about them.

Corruption

Corruption, black money, and freebies present formidable challenges deeply ingrained in our society. We don't seem to be averse to corruption and are willing participants in this process. The corrupt evade consequences through influential connections and legal maneuvering. Are we not seeing some influential and high-profile politicians, who have been convicted for indulging in corruption, frequently getting out of jail? Worse, they are seldom disowned by their followers or the electorate. I wonder if we can ever devise a system for controlling corruption.

Freebies, particularly the ones promised by the political parties in their election manifestos, are the latest innovations of the fertile minds of the manipulators of the electoral process. Their success in some states has made it attractive to most other political parties. Political parties justify freebies by quoting the provisions contained in Chapter IV (Directive Principles of State Policy, Articles 36 to 51) of the Constitution and the duty of the State to help the poor and disempowered sections of society. What is deliberately concealed is the most important provision contained in Article 37, which, before all other articles in Chapter IV, mentions that ".....it shall be the duty



of the State to apply these principles in making laws." The stated objective/justification for the pre-election announcement of freebies cannot be contested by anyone, as it is to help the poor and empower the disempowered in society. But these objectives are to be kept in view by the state while making laws, which can only be a post-election activity of the State.

In a democratic setup, it means that the concerned legislature will have the opportunity to discuss all the aspects of providing such benefits, including the financial capacity of the State to fund such measures. In fact, the central and state governments have been implementing such welfare schemes right from the beginning of the Constitution. Political parties, therefore, cannot justify the announcement of freebies before the elections as having a constitutional mandate. This is a strategy invented to garner political advantage in the hustings. It is good that some political parties have started to realise the adverse effects of such freebies on the state finances. And the worst is that the

doles in the form of freebies dampen the resolve of the beneficiaries to fight their own adverse circumstances. Now that the matter is before the Supreme Court, one hopes that such practices will be declared unconstitutional.

Increasing Communal Divide

This is arguably the greatest challenge now before India, as we have sizeable minorities in our country. We are a secular country, and our Constitution gives equal rights to all our citizens. However, the minorities, particularly the Muslim minority, which is the largest minority (about 14% of the population), seem to be feeling alienated and discriminated against. Concerns about some of the legislation, like the abolition of Triple Talaq, CAA, and abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A, from the Constitution and the proposed Uniform Civil Code, persist among the Muslim community. They have been expressing their concern in this regard both privately and publicly. It is a serious matter and needs to be addressed urgently.

Our experience so far indicates that political parties have tried to create vote banks that are mostly based on specific castes, communities, and religions. There are not many vote banks that are based on political philosophies or ideologies at present. This doesn't augur well for a healthy democracy. One hopes that our electorate will exercise their franchise carefully and not become vote banks for any political party. Though there's some hope in this regard, it is important for the electorate not to mortgage its interests/future by becoming a vote bank for any particular political party.

Coming back to the apprehensions of the Muslim community, I can only say that their apprehensions need to be addressed immediately, as these are likely to be exploited by the unsocial elements and can lead to serious law and order situations in some parts of the country. In my experience, people from all communities generally have cordial relations with each other and want to live peacefully and in harmony. Unsocial elements should not be allowed to disturb this harmony. It is also important that both the ruling party at the Centre and the Muslim community introspect, and jointly find a solution to address these concerns.

We need to understand that India can become a developed nation only if the fruits of development are shared equally by everyone.

(The writer is a retired IAS officer)



DECCAN HERALD

ESTABLISHED 1948

Aditya L1 in orbit to bring solar data

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) reached another space milestone on Saturday by placing the country's first solar mission, Aditya L1, in a halo orbit around the Lagrangian point (L1). This is the location in space where the gravitational forces of the sun and the earth are in balance, allowing the spacecraft to remain stable. The craft will also get an uninterrupted view of the sun from there. It took 127 days for it to make its 1.5 million km journey. The mission had been on the radar for about 15 years and ISRO was working on it for three years. After the mission reached its destination, ISRO announced that it had achieved the exact placement and velocity, and would now monitor the craft's progress and make corrections if necessary. Till now, everything about the mission has gone well and it is in a position to start sending data to the earth soon.

The mission, the country's first solar observatory, will study coronal mass ejections of plasma and energy released from the sun. It is designed to study a number of solar phenomena. The spacecraft carries payloads to study the photosphere, chromosphere and the outermost layer of the sun using electromagnetic detectors. The data will be extremely useful because most solar phenomena impact the earth and activities such as the operation of satellites. Very little is known about the sun and that makes the information especially significant. Apart from throwing light on the sun, the data will help in areas like space weather forecasting. ISRO Chairman S Somanath has said the data from the mission will be made available to researchers across the world.

According to ISRO, the insertion of the craft into the orbit demanded precise navigation and control, and the success of the mission has validated the organisation's capabilities in complex orbital manoeuvres and interplanetary missions. India is the first Asian country to place a spacecraft in an orbit around the sun. The US and the European space agency have sent their probes to the solar system. The Japanese and Chinese solar observatory missions are in the earth's orbit. Last year, ISRO created history by landing a craft near the south pole of the moon. Last week, it launched a satellite to study cosmic objects like blackholes. ISRO has a number of ambitious projects lined up. Manned and unmanned space flights and missions to Mars and Venus are on the cards in the near future. ISRO's scientists and engineers deserve congratulations on the achievements, which make India a major space power.

**ISRO's strides
show India's
big league
capabilities**

BRUTAL ATTACK ON ED OFFICERS BAD OPTICS FOR THE TRINAMOOL

MAGES of bleeding Enforcement Directorate officials after they were attacked by Trinamool Congress goons in West Bengal reinforced the impression that might alone is right in parts of the state. That the local police station booked a suo motu FIR against the raiding ED party showed how compromised the law and order machinery has become. The charges the sycophants invoked included molestation, forcible entry and theft. The officers and their CRPF security personnel had reached the house of Shahjahan Sheikh at Sandeshkhali in North 24 Parganas to arrest him in connection with a multi-crore ration scam, but he refused to open the door. Instead, hundreds of musclemen converged at his house in no time, attacked the officers and snatched their personal belongings like mobile phones and wallets. Three ED officers sustained grievous injuries and were hospitalised. That the ED serves as a force multiplier for the Centre is well known. But its partisanship has to be dealt with politically and not with bricks and sticks on the streets. Assaulting officials for merely doing their job is not done. They were just following orders; their decision makers sit elsewhere. It's like Israel blaming Gazans for acting as civilian cover to terror outfits like the Hamas - as if they had an option to opt out.

Instead of condemning the attack, the Trinamool shamelessly accused the ED for the raid without informing the local police station. The party ought to realise that it could become as unpopular as its predecessor Left Front government if the lawlessness continues unabated. It's the TINA (there is no alternative) factor that is working for it but Mamata's party can't bank on it forever. The only acceptable action is to book the goons and let the law take its course impartially.

One of the kingpins of the scam is said to be former food and civil supplies minister Jyotipriya Mallick. He was arrested on October 27, 2023. Sheikh is a Mallick loyalist, hence the ED knock on his door. The scam involved providing about 400 gm less per kg of PDS grains to all beneficiaries. The collective loot was shared with ration shop owners and the political class. A huge chunk of the money - ₹2,000 crore by ED estimates - got transferred out of country. People rose in revolt against the swindle during the pandemic, which was how the scam surfaced. Short-changing the poor must have consequences.



A new high

ISRO should help everyone enjoy the fruits of its new science missions

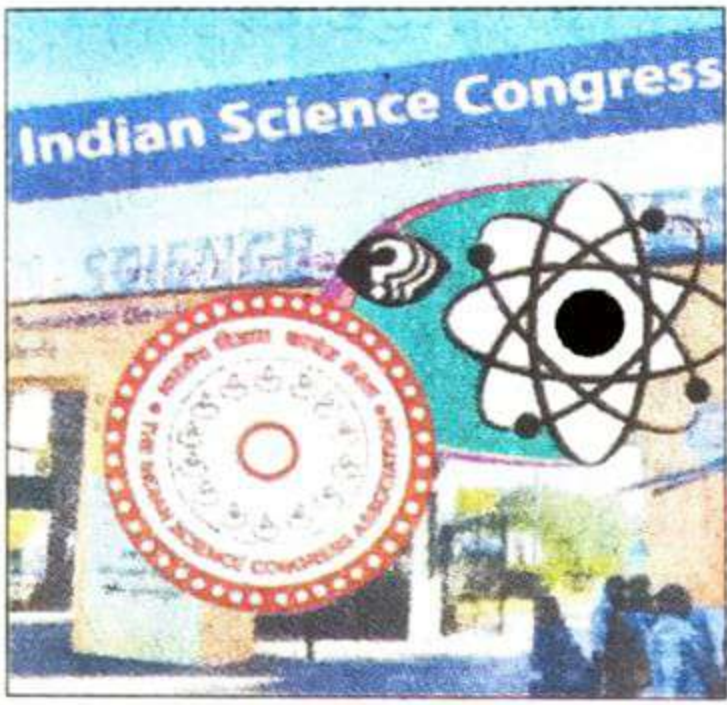
On January 6 evening, a stream of commands transmitted by scientists and engineers of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) were translated by a computer onboard the Aditya-L1 spacecraft into manoeuvres that guided it into orbit around an imaginary point in space. Thus, Aditya-L1 reached its destination, around the L1 Lagrange point, from where it will have an unfettered view of the sun for its expected lifetime of five years. Aditya-L1 is an observatory-class solar mission that will study the sun with seven instruments: VELC, a coronagraph to study the uppermost layer of the sun's atmosphere; SUIT, an ultraviolet imaging telescope; SoLEXS and HELIOS, to study solar flares and coronal mass ejections; ASPEX and PAPA, to study the solar wind and plasma; and a set of digital magnetometers to measure properties of the magnetic field around the spacecraft. ISRO picked the L1 Lagrange point – 1.5 million km from the earth in the earth-sun direction and one of five Lagrange points in the earth-sun system – because the gravitational influences of the two bodies interact such that a smaller body here will not experience a net tug towards either. So, Aditya-L1 can stay at L1 while expending little fuel. Its scientific mission will begin in a month or so, once its thrusters' emissions drift away.

As such, Aditya-L1 supplements India's storied history of observing the sun – dating back to the Kodaikanal Solar Observatory, which commenced operations in 1901 – by lofting it into space. It also follows the XPoSat mission, launched on January 1 to become only the world's second X-ray polarimetry satellite, and eight years after AstroSat, which reached several highs of its own. An important issue with such achievements is public perception. For example, while Aditya-L1 and AstroSat are big strides from India's point of view, they pale in comparison to the imaging abilities of the James Webb Space Telescope, which is operated by three space agencies. Yet, many continue to expect the Indian spacecraft to capture hi-res photographs of the cosmos and are disillusioned when it does not. This is not fair (setting aside the fact that not all instruments are imagers). ISRO can do more, too, by expanding its own and its collaborating institutes' public outreach efforts, such as by hosting open days focused on specific missions and commissioning science communication on new results at regular intervals. Everyone should be able to celebrate a new high, but especially the people at large, so ISRO should also consider including components on missions that feed public interest. All these efforts will require funds, but considering the love ISRO has been getting from the government of late, it may just be a matter of asking.



ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ನಡೆಯದಿರಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅಸಹಕಾರವೇ ಕಾರಣ

ಪ್ರತಿವರ್ಷ ಜನವರಿ ಮೊದಲ ವಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಯೋಜನೆಗೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ಈ ವರ್ಷ ನಡೆದಿಲ್ಲ. ಮುಂದಿನ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅದು ನಡೆಯಲಿದೆಯೇ ಎಂಬುದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆಯೂ ಖಚಿತತೆ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಸಾಂಕ್ರಾಮಿಕದ ಸಂದರ್ಭವನ್ನು ಬಿಟ್ಟು, ಶತಮಾನಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಕಾಲದಿಂದ ಈ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ನಿರಂತರವಾಗಿ ನಡೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಬಂದಿದೆ. ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಇದು ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಮಹತ್ವದ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ. ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ ನಂತರ, ಪ್ರಧಾನಮಂತ್ರಿಯವರೇ ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ಉದ್ಘಾಟಿಸುವುದು ಒಂದು ಪದ್ಧತಿಯೇ ಆಗಿತ್ತು. ಹಾಗಾಗಿಯೇ ಇದು ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಮಹತ್ವದ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ಎಂದು ಪರಿಗಣಿತವಾಗಿತ್ತು. ದೇಶದ ಪ್ರಗತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗಾಗಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಕ್ಕೆ ಮಹತ್ವ ನೀಡಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ರಾಜಕೀಯ ನಾಯಕರು ಭಾವಿಸಿದ್ದರ ಸಂಕೇತವಾಗಿಯೂ ಇದು ಇತ್ತು. ದೇಶದ ಮೊದಲ ಪ್ರಧಾನಿ ಜವಾಹರಲಾಲ್ ನೆಹರೂ ಅವರು ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಮತ್ತು ವೈಜ್ಞಾನಿಕ ಸ್ಫೂರ್ತಿಗೆ ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹ ನೀಡುವ ವೇದಿಕೆಯಾಗಿ ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಿದ್ದರು. ದೇಶದ ಉನ್ನತ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿಗಳು, ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಘಟನೆಗಳ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಎಲ್ಲ ಹಂತಗಳ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧಕರು ಹಾಗೂ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಜನರಿಗೆ ಪರಸ್ಪರ ಭೇಟಿಯಾಗಲು, ಸಂವಾದ ನಡೆಸಲು ಇದೊಂದು ಅವಕಾಶವನ್ನು ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಸಿಕೊಡುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಪ್ರಬಂಧಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ಉಪಯುಕ್ತ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾಹಿತಿಯುಕ್ತ ಚರ್ಚೆಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನಗಳು ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದವು. ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ಅನ್ನು ಸಣ್ಣ ಪಟ್ಟಣಗಳು ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ದೇಶದ ವಿವಿಧ ಭಾಗಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.



ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್‌ನ ಕಾರ್ಯಚಟುವಟಿಕೆ ಕುರಿತು ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಅಸಮಾಧಾನ ಇದ್ದಿದ್ದರೆ, ಅದನ್ನು ಸರಿಪಡಿಸಬಹುದಿತ್ತು. ಬದಲಿಗೆ, ಅದರ ಕತ್ತು ಹಿಸುಕುವ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಬಾರದಿತ್ತು

ಆದರೆ, ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ತನ್ನ ಮೌಲ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಸಿದ್ಧಿಯನ್ನು ಕಳೆದುಕೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಪ್ರಮುಖ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹಲವರು ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವುದನ್ನು ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಹಲವು ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗಿಯಾಗಲು ಆಸಕ್ತಿ ತೋರುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಮಂಡನೆಯಾಗುವ ಪ್ರಬಂಧಗಳ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟ, ಚರ್ಚೆಯ ಮಟ್ಟ ಎಲ್ಲವೂ ಕುಸಿದಿವೆ. ಮಂಡನೆಯಾದ ಪ್ರಬಂಧಗಳ ವಿಷಯಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ವಿವಾದಗಳು ಉಂಟಾಗಿವೆ. ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಕ್ಕೆ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ನೆರವು ನೀಡಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ನಿರಾಕರಿಸಿರುವುದು ಬಿಕ್ಕಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಕಾರಣವಾಗಿದೆ. ಇಂಡಿಯನ್ ಸೈನ್ಸ್ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ಅಸೋಸಿಯೇಷನ್ (ಐಎಸ್‌ಸಿಎ) ಎಂಬ ಖಾಸಗಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ನೆರವಿನೊಂದಿಗೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ಆಯೋಜಿಸುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಐಎಸ್‌ಸಿಎ ಹಣಕಾಸಿನ

ತನ್ನ ಮೌಲ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಸಿದ್ಧಿಯನ್ನು ಕಳೆದುಕೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಪ್ರಮುಖ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹಲವರು ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವುದನ್ನು ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಹಲವು ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗಿಯಾಗಲು ಆಸಕ್ತಿ ತೋರುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಮಂಡನೆಯಾಗುವ ಪ್ರಬಂಧಗಳ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟ, ಚರ್ಚೆಯ ಮಟ್ಟ ಎಲ್ಲವೂ ಕುಸಿದಿವೆ. ಮಂಡನೆಯಾದ ಪ್ರಬಂಧಗಳ ವಿಷಯಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ವಿವಾದಗಳು ಉಂಟಾಗಿವೆ. ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಕ್ಕೆ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ನೆರವು ನೀಡಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ನಿರಾಕರಿಸಿರುವುದು ಬಿಕ್ಕಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಕಾರಣವಾಗಿದೆ. ಇಂಡಿಯನ್ ಸೈನ್ಸ್ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್ ಅಸೋಸಿಯೇಷನ್ (ಐಎಸ್‌ಸಿಎ) ಎಂಬ ಖಾಸಗಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ನೆರವಿನೊಂದಿಗೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ಆಯೋಜಿಸುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಐಎಸ್‌ಸಿಎ ಹಣಕಾಸಿನ

ವಿಚಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಅವ್ಯವಹಾರ ನಡೆಸಿದೆ ಮತ್ತು ಏಕಪಕ್ಷೀಯವಾಗಿ ನಿರ್ಧಾರಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂಬ ಆರೋಪಗಳಿವೆ ಎಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಹೇಳಿದೆ. ಇದೇ ಕಾರಣ ಕೊಟ್ಟು ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ನೆರವು ನೀಡಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ನಿರಾಕರಿಸಿದೆ. ಈ ವರ್ಷದ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್‌ನ ಸ್ಥಳವನ್ನು ಲಖನೌ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದಿಂದ ಜಲಂಧರ್‌ನ ಖಾಸಗಿ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯವೊಂದಕ್ಕೆ ವರ್ಗಾಯಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಅನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿತ ಸವಾಲುಗಳ ಕಾರಣದಿಂದಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ನಡೆಸಲಾಗದು ಎಂದು ಈ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಕೂಡ ಈಗ ಹೇಳಿದೆ. ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ಆತಿಥ್ಯ ವಹಿಸಲು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳು ಮುಂದೆ ಬರಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಐಎಸ್‌ಸಿಎ ಕೋರಿದೆ. ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾದರೆ ಫೆಬ್ರವರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ನಡೆಸಬಹುದು ಎಂದಿದೆ.

ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್‌ನಿಂದ ಅಂತರ ಕಾಯ್ದುಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಬೇರೊಂದು ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಮಾವೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿದೆ. 'ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಭಾರತಿ'ಯ ಸಹಯೋಗದಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಸಲಾಗುವ ಇಂಡಿಯಾ-ಇಂಟರ್‌ನ್ಯಾಷನಲ್ ಸೈನ್ಸ್ ಫೆಸ್ಟಿವಲ್‌ಗೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ನೆರವು ನೀಡುತ್ತಿದೆ. ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಭಾರತಿಯು ಸಂಘ ಪರಿವಾರದ ಜೊತೆ ನಂಟು ಇರುವ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ಸಭೆಯು ಹರಿಯಾಣದ ಫರೀದಾಬಾದ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ತಿಂಗಳು ನಡೆಯಲಿದೆ. ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ನಡೆಸುವ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್‌ಗೆ ಪರ್ಯಾಯ ಎಂದು ಬಿಂಬಿಸಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಯತ್ನಿಸುತ್ತಿದೆ. ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್‌ನ ಕಾರ್ಯಚಟುವಟಿಕೆ ಕುರಿತು ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಅಸಮಾಧಾನ ಇದ್ದಿದ್ದರೆ ಅದನ್ನು ಸರಿಪಡಿಸುವ ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ಮಾಡಬಹುದಿತ್ತು. ಅದರ ಬದಲಿಗೆ, ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್‌ನ ಕತ್ತು ಹಿಸುಕುವ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಬಾರದಿತ್ತು. ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕಾಂಗ್ರೆಸ್‌ಗೆ ಇದ್ದ ಪ್ರಸಿದ್ಧಿಯನ್ನು ಸತತ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಮರಳಿ ತರಬಹುದಿತ್ತು. ಪ್ರತಿಸ್ಪರ್ಧಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿರುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಸೈದ್ಧಾಂತಿಕ ಕಾರಣಗಳು ಇರಬಹುದು. ಆದರೆ, ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಮತ್ತು ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಸಿದ್ಧಾಂತದ ನಡುವೆಯಾವುದೇ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಇಂತಹ ನಡವಳಿಕೆಯು ವಿಜ್ಞಾನದ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆಗೆ ಮಾರಕ. ನೈಜವಾದ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹ ನೀಡುವುದು ದೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ಅತ್ಯಗತ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ.

ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ

ಸಂಪಾದಕೀಯ

ಮಾಲ್ಡೀವ್ಸ್‌ಗೆ ತಕ್ಕ ಪಾಠ

ಮಾಲ್ಡೀವ್ಸ್ ಬೇನಾದ ತಾಳಕ್ಕೆ ತಕ್ಕಂತೆ ಕುಣಿಯುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದು ಮತ್ತೊಮ್ಮೆ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟಗೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಭಾರತದ ನೆರೆಯ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರಗಳಾದ ನೇಪಾಳ, ಬಾಂಗ್ಲಾದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ತನ್ನ ಪ್ರಭಾವ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಬೇನಾ, ಭಾರತದ ಪ್ರಾಬಲ್ಯ ಕಡಿಮೆಗೊಳಿಸಲು ಹವಣಿಸುತ್ತಲೇ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಮಾಲ್ಡೀವ್ಸ್‌ನ ನೂತನ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಮೊಹಮ್ಮದ್ ಮುಹಿಜು ಬೇನಾ ನಾಯಕತ್ವಕ್ಕೆ ಆಪ್ತರು. ಮುಹಿಜು ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಂತೆಯೇ, ಭಾರತವಿರೋಧಿ ಧೋರಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಳೆದರು. ಮತ್ತು ಮಾಲ್ಡೀವ್ಸ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾರತೀಯ ಸೇನೆಯ ಉಪಸ್ಥಿತಿಯನ್ನು ವಿರೋಧಿಸಿದರು. ಈ ವಿವಾದ ತಣ್ಣಗಾಗುವ ಮುಂಚೆಯೇ, ಅಲ್ಲಿನ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಲ ಸಚಿವರು ಭಾರತ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಧಾನಿ ನರೇಂದ್ರ ಮೋದಿ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಮಾಧ್ಯಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಾರ್ಹ ಹೇಳಿಕೆ ನೀಡಿದ್ದು, ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಭಾರಿ ವಿರೋಧ ವ್ಯಕ್ತವಾಗಿದೆ.



ಅನಗತ್ಯ ವಿವಾದ ಬೇಕಿತ್ತೆ?

ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೂ ಅದಕ್ಕೂ ಸಂಬಂಧವಿಲ್ಲ' ಎಂದು ನುಣುಚಿಕೊಂಡಿದೆ.

ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಮಾಧ್ಯಮಗಳಲ್ಲೇ ಮಾಲ್ಡೀವ್ಸ್‌ಗೆ ತಿರುಗೇಟು ನೀಡಿದ ಭಾರತೀಯರು 'ಬಾಯ್ಕಟ್ ಮಾಲ್ಡೀವ್ಸ್' ಅಭಿಯಾನವನ್ನೇ ನಡೆಸಿದರು. ಕೆಲವೇ ತಾಸುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 6 ಲಕ್ಷಕ್ಕೂ ಅಧಿಕ ಪೋಸ್ಟ್‌ಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾದವು. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ, ಮಾಲ್ಡೀವ್ಸ್‌ನ ಹೋಟೆಲ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾರತೀಯ ಪ್ರವಾಸಿಗರು ಕಾದಿರಿಸಿದ್ದ 7500 ಕೋಣೆಗಳು, ವಿಮಾನದ 2300 ಸೀಟುಗಳು ರದ್ದಾದವು. ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷ ಎರಡು ಲಕ್ಷಕ್ಕೂ ಅಧಿಕ ಭಾರತೀಯರು ಮಾಲ್ಡೀವ್ಸ್‌ಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಹಾಗಂತ, ಭಾರತ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಪ್ರವಾಸೋದ್ಯಮದ ಶಕ್ತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಅವಕಾಶಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಲಕ್ಷಿಸುವಂತಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ಲಕ್ಷದ್ವಿಪಕ್ಕೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿದ್ದ ಪ್ರಧಾನಿ ನರೇಂದ್ರ ಮೋದಿ, 'ಹೊರದೇಶಗಳ ಕಡಲತೀರಗಳಿಗಿಂತ ಲಕ್ಷದ್ವಿಪದ ಸೌಂದರ್ಯ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಿಲ್ಲ' ಎಂದಿದ್ದರು. ಇದು ಮಾಲ್ಡೀವ್ಸ್‌ನ ಅಸಮಾಧಾನಕ್ಕೆ ಕಾರಣವಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ, ಈ ವಿಷಯದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವಾದ ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಸುವ ಅಗತ್ಯವೇ ಇರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಯಾವುದೇ ದೇಶವಾದರೂ ತನ್ನ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಯ ಅವಕಾಶಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಕ್ತವಾಗಿ ಹೇಳಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತದೆ. ಆ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಜನರನ್ನು ಜಾಗೃತರನ್ನಾಗಿ ಮಾಡುತ್ತದೆ. ಹಾಗಾಗಿ, ಪ್ರಧಾನಿ ಲಕ್ಷದ್ವಿಪ ಭೇಟಿಯ ಬಳಿಕ, ಜನರು ಮಾಲ್ಡೀವ್ಸ್ ಪ್ರವಾಸಯೋಜನೆ ರದ್ದು ಮಾಡಿ, ನಮ್ಮ ದೇಶಗಳ ಕಡಲತೀರಗಳಿಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಲು ಉತ್ಸುಕರಾಗಿದ್ದು ಸ್ವಾಭಾವಿಕವೇ. 'ಹೊರದೇಶಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವಾಹ ಸಮಾರಂಭಗಳನ್ನು ಆಯೋಜಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಭಾರತದಲ್ಲೇ ನಡೆಸಿ, ಇದರಿಂದ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಆರ್ಥಿಕತೆಗೆ ಅನುಕೂಲವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ' ಎಂದಿದ್ದರು ಮೋದಿ. ಪ್ರವಾಸೋದ್ಯಮ ವಿಷಯದಲ್ಲೂ ಇದು ಅನ್ವಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಅದೇನೆ ಇದ್ದರೂ, ಇಂಥ ವಿವಾದಗಳು ಎರಡು ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರಗಳ ನಡುವಿನ ರಾಜತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಸಂಬಂಧವನ್ನು ಹಾಳುಗಡವಬಾರದು. ಅನಗತ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಮತ್ತೊಂದು ದೇಶವನ್ನು ಟೀಕಿಸಿದರೆ ಏನು ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಅನುಭವಿಸಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂಬ ಪಾಠ ಮಾಲ್ಡೀವ್ಸ್‌ಗೆ ಸಿಕ್ಕಿದೆ.



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