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CULTURE OF PEACE AND NON-VIOLENCE IN CONTEMPORARY TIMES: A SEMINAR

Alankrita Mohapatra

On the occasion of International Peace Day, Manipal Institute of Communication organized a webinar for two days on 'Reflection on the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence in Contemporary Times.'

The webinar started on 20th September 2021 with the inauguration of the session in commemoration of International Peace Day on MS Teams. Dr Padma Rani, Director of Manipal Institute of Communication, began the event with a short speech about non-violence.

Sarita Jadav, National Program Officer, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) was the primary speaker of the day. She shared the role of UNESCO and has played a significant part in establishing a culture of peace and sustainable development for the upcoming times.

Ambassador Vishnu



Image Source: MIC official Instagram Page

Prakash, a retired diplomat, the subsequent speaker, made an insightful speech on the Geopolitical challenges and opportunities of India. He emphasized the Foreign policies of India with attention to Indo-China relations. He stated, "India's policy is directed towards building relations and reflecting peace."

Sanjoy Hazarika, Honorary Research professor and the Director of Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, New Delhi, and the Director of Centre of North

East Studies and Policy Research, Jamia Milia Islamia, spoke on the Conflict Resolution in North East with Nation Centric approach on the subject.

Hazarika said, "Concept of alienation may be a human act," while talking about the sensation of alienation that the people in North-Eastern states of India stuck in conflict zones felt. Professor MD Nalapat, Professor of Geopolitics and UNESCO Peace Chair, Manipal concluded the day by saying, "Peace may be a uni-

versal human right."

The final session of the webinar was held on 21st September 2021. It began with Professor MD Nalapat making the opening remarks.

Seema Mustafa, Editor in Chief, the Citizen and Director of Centre for Policy Analysis, was the primary speaker of the day. She said, "War is an act of fear and insecurity. In contemporary times nobody is fighting to guard their motherland. Gandhi's principles of Non-Violence hold the key to the longer term. Violence

isn't an answer, war only brings destruction," while speaking about conflicts and explaining the need for peace.

Later, Hridayesh Joshi, an Independent Journalist and writer, stated, "Defence Journalism and Conflict Reporting has multiple aspects, hence in contemporary times it should be called Defence Communication," while highlighting the importance of conflict reporting in contemporary times.

The session ended with Dr Padma Rani saying, "It isn't just defence journalism now, but defence communication as there are multiple sides to it. It's vital for a journalist to assess the story from all sides before writing about it," while describing her experience as a professor with her students of defence communication.

DIGITAL LIBRARY PROJECT: AN ONGOING SUCCESS FOR KARNATAKA GOVERNMENT

Aashi Bamby

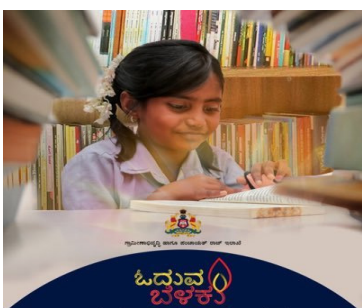


Image Source: GramKarnataka Twitter

The youth of this generation has figured a way to detoxify their time spent on the internet by accessing informative e-books.

This can be concluded as the Digital Library Project of the Public Library Department has registered more than five lakh users in

Udupi District.

In the past 16 months after www.karnatakadigitalpubliclibrary.org was launched in the state in February 2020, approximately 5,22,281 people from Udupi district registered and started reading e-books.

Nalini G I, the chief librarian, Udupi district said, "More than five lakh registrations in Udupi district show that people are interested in reading books. The registration numbers may go up in the coming days."

Although, a common issue was filed by the users saying that the website and the app

(e-Sarvajanika Granthalaya) developed by the department are not convenient for usage yet and the majority of books in Kannada are not accessible.

This issue was brought into the notice of Sathish Kumar S Hosamani, Director, Department of Public libraries, he stated that the department has not yet got the copyrights from the publishers of the Kannada novels.

Hosamani's department would work on the issue of language selection option with the help of the technical team.

RSV: AN OLD VIRUS BACK TO UDUPI, BUT NOTHING TO WORRY

Alankrita Mohapatra

Within the chaos of covid-19, another old virus has come back to Udupi. Recently, cases of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) were found among children and as per the reports, the positive cases of RSV are increasing.

Although 4-5 RSV-positive cases are admitted every week at Kasturba Medical College, Manipal, Dr Leslie Edward S Lewis, Department of Paediatrics Head said there is no need to panic. Additionally, he said that children diagnosed with RSV need hospitalization for a week, and those

in need, are provided with bronchodilator medicine.

According to Dr Nagarathna, district surveillance officer, Udupi, children with RSV are treated in OPD, and some require hospital admission, but no mortalities have been reported.

Dr Guruprasad Shetty, Paediatrician at Adarsha Hospital, Udupi, stated that 15 such cases were reported at their hospital, and the kids were tested for covid-19, but the reports were negative. He advised that it is important for the body to stay hydrated to decrease the body temperature.

The 'Nammuru Namma Kere' programme completes yet another successful revival

Pranav Jagdish Shetty

Kundapur: Kancharu pond, which is located beside the Amparu-Siddapura major road and falls under the jurisdiction of Amparu gram panchayat in the taluk, has been revived through the 'Nammuru Namma Kere' programme. This pond was resurrected with the help of the Shree Kshethra Dharmasthala rural development scheme and the active participation and cooperation of the Amparu gram panchayat Kancharu pond development committee.

Thyagaraja Bhat presided over the formation of a committee and Ganesh B, district project director of the Dharmasthala scheme, oversaw the project. Kundapur taluk project officer K Muralidhar Shetty, local zonal supervisors, service representatives, internal auditor Sunita, gram panchayat president Bharathi Shet, and vice-president Ashok Kumar all made significant contributions.

Ganesh B explained the project in detail: "This pond was built for a total of Rs 7,75,900, with the Dharmasthala scheme provid-



Image Source: Daijiworld.com

ing a grant of Rs 5.45 lakh, and the Amparu gram panchayat handing a grant of Rs 50,000. The cost of silt transport was Rs 1,80,900."

He further states, "The work on the 1.75-acre pond began on 22nd February and was completed on 13th September. The pond's silt has been cleaned up. Trenches have been built to allow excess water to flow out and normal water to flow in it. For safety purposes, wire mesh is installed all around the pond. Due to the construction of this pond, the groundwater level will rise and it will also make cultivation easier on the lower side of the pond. There is a forest close by; as a result, the pond will also help quench the thirst of animals and birds living in the forest." He also added that the local panchayats

cooperated wholeheartedly in the development of the pond.

'Nammuru Namma Kere' was the brainchild of Mathrashree Hemavathi Heggade. The name was chosen to evoke positive feelings in the public's minds about their village's pond. The project had been in the works for the past six years. This scheme has resulted in the revitalisation or construction of 390 ponds costing Rs 21 crore and 46 lakh. About Rs 16.23 lakh has been contributed by local governments towards this programme. Over 1,65,000 families have benefited by the implementation of this project, and as many as ten ponds have been developed in the district of Udupi.

Source - Daijiworld Media Network

Oscar Fernandes' Funeral Mass was held at his hometown, Udupi

Vaishnavi S



Image Source: The Week

Former Union Minister and Rajya Sabha member Oscar Fernandes' last rites were held in Udupi. He took his final breath at a private hospital in Mangalore, on September 13. He was 80 years old, as per his family. On Tuesday, his funeral mass was held at the Mother of Sorrows Church in Udupi. He was then moved to St. Patrick's Church in Bengaluru for the final rites.

Social Welfare Minister Kota Srinivas Poojary, former MLC Ivan D'Souza and others offered their respects. PM Modi offered his respects by saying, "Saddened by the demise of Rajya Sabha MP Shri Oscar Fernandes Ji. In this sad hour,

my thoughts and prayers are with his family and well-wishers. May his soul rest in peace." Fernandes' mortal remains were taken to his heritage house at Ambalpadi in Udupi, where his family members offered their due prayers. During the procession, people on the sides of the road offered flowers in and around Udayavara.

Oscar Fernandes suffered from a blood clot in his brain, for which he had undergone surgery in July. He was a part of the 7th constituency of the Lok Sabha in 1980, representing Udupi. He was the son of the first President of the Manipal Institute of Technology.

Dharmaraj- The Coastal Veteran Hero from Karnataka

Jayadhara MV

Karnad Sadashiva Rao, often referred to as 'Dharmaraj' was a veteran freedom fighter, a social reformer and a humanitarian; from Mangalore, Karnataka. He was born in 1881 to a wealthy family in the coastal region of K'taka.

In 1919, he was completely engaged in the Independence Movement opposing the Jallianwala Bagh tragedy and the Rowlatt Act. Sadashiva Rao was one of the 'firsts' from Karnataka to sign the satyagraha pledge. He was among the key members of the congress party and was responsible for elevating the party in Karnataka. He organised rallies and processions and

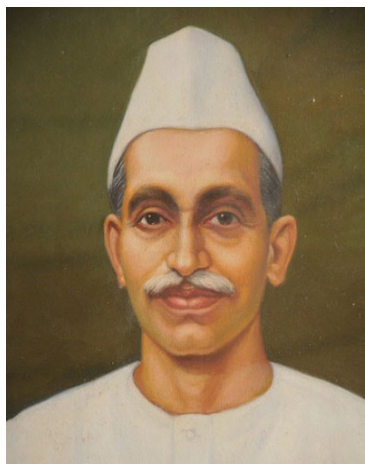


Image source: saakshatv

travelled persistently from town to village, creating awareness of the freedom struggle and independence. His role in the no-tax campaign was also commendable.

The veteran hero was a front-level leader within



the 'No-tax' campaign and salt satyagraha. He also canvassed for the swadeshi movement boycotting foreign products and fostered Gandhi's weaving wheel to promote Khadi industry in Karnataka in 1927. His house served as a guest

house for national leaders like Gandhi, Nehru, Sarojini naidu, and many others. He was responsible for uniting various communities in South Kannada districts for the cause of national freedom.

Karnad Sadashiva Rao was jailed three times, and during one of those times, he lost his daughter, only son, and wife Shantabai, who had actively supported him in all his social activities. A shattered man went to Gandhi's Sabarmati Ashram to seek solace. But he had to return home only to respond to distress calls from his district, which faced unprecedented inundation and needed im-

mediate relief. Sadashiva Rao claimed a new role as a benefactor and servant of the poor. During this period, food scarcity and famine-like conditions were widely prevalent, and the poorer sections were almost starving. He organized relief camps for the flood victims and provided food and shelter from his personal funds. Not long after his death in 1937, Gandhi went to see Sadashiva Rao's mother. He bowed before her and said, "Blessed are you, mother, for having borne a son such as he."

Source: jaborejob.com

The Distinguished Personalities Of MAHE

Dr. Ramdas M Pai Scholarship

Vaishnavi S

MAHE is going to offer scholarships to students who have lost their sole bread-earning parents, on the occasion of the 86th birthday of Dr. Ramdas M Pai, the honorable chancellor. Dr Ranjan R Pai, MAHE Trust, and Chairman MEMG India Pvt. Ltd. announced this scholarship regime on 17th September. The scholarship provides students with a 100 percent course fee waiver. The initiative helps students in need to complete their due courses without undergoing financial troubles. A lot of people suffered during the course of the pandemic and steps like these help make things a little more tolerable.

Source: manipal.edu

35 MIT students offered a ₹ 44 lakh package by Microsoft

Vaishnavi S

Thirty-five students from MIT (Manipal Institute of Technology) MAHE, secured placements with a pay package of ₹44 lakhs per annum from Microsoft. The offer was the highest ever offered by Microsoft to students of Manipal.

Other reputed companies such as Amazon, Adobe, Bajaj Finserv, BlackRock, Cisco Systems, Chargebee, Cloudera, Commvault, Citrix R&D, Cohesity, Deutsche India Pvt. Ltd., Flipkart, Fidelity Investment, Goldman Sachs, Hevodata, HPE, JP Morgan, Komprise, Nvidia, Oracle, Sabre Travels, SAP Labs, Tejas Networks, UBS Business, VM Ware, Western Digital, Wells Fargo, took part in the virtual campus placements.

Alumni of MIC: Pride of MAHE

Anirudh Sreekumar

Divya Lad

MIC Alumni Divya Lad, from the Batch of 2011, is appointed as a researcher in the United Nations' World Food Programme. She is also a recipient of the distinguished German Chancellor Fellowship for Tomorrow's Leaders 2019-20. Her interactions with Indigenous communities and Non-Government Organizations have helped her grow into a World Food Programme research associate, where she is also working closely with Niti Aayog for food and nutrition security. She believes that her placement in Reuters News during her final year at MIC was the seed to her ever-growing professional career. MIC and MAHE are immensely proud of her.

Sanath Balkur

The documentary 'Dhivarah: how of life' has achieved significant success and has been selected for the American Pavilion Emerging Filmmaker Showcase at the Cannes Festival in France. Sanath Balkur, from BAMC, Batch of 2020, has played a crucial role in making this documentary with credits as a principal researcher, interviewer, and sync audio recording engineer. Apart from Cannes, the documentary has witnessed success at other prestigious award events like the Orion festival, where it was a finalist and also at the International Ocean Film Fest, where it was crowned the First Time Filmmaker Award. MIC is happy to know that its friendly learning environment could help a star suc-

ceed this high in his life.

Avni Chinoy

The Batch of 2006 alumni's International Experience, a knack for breaking down departmental barriers and binding skill sets into an integrated team, let her usher in a way that needed perspective to assist solve significant business problems. This skill helped her become the Managing Partner and the Chief Creative Officer by Gravity Integrated. Equipped with experience from companies like Google, Amazon, Blackberry, etc. Avni is prepared to form strides within the Business Industry.

MAHE is happy and proud for the accomplishment of all its talented students and alumni. Alumni are the most important pride of MAHE!

Dr. Padmakumar K: The new IAMCR Faculty Ambassador

Vaishnavy Balakrishnan,
Kandlakunta Navya



DR. PADMAKUMAR K

Image source: MIC Official Instagram Page

MAHE is proud to announce that Dr Padmakumar K, Associate Professor at Manipal Institute of Communication, has been appointed as the ambassador of the International Association for Media and Communication Research.

The International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR) is an esteemed worldwide professional organization in Media and Communication Research. This field is

authentic and expanded in various directions and angles.

It aims to back and develop media and communication research throughout the world, and the members of this organization promote global inclusivity and excellence within the best traditions of critical scholarship in the field.

Numerous people contribute in supporting IAMCR, including 30 members of its International Council, over

80 Section and Working Group deputies and chairs, many members of several task forces and committees and over 2,500 active members of the association.

Dr Padmakumar K, is a well-revered professor at Manipal Institute of Communication. His interactive classes have never ceased to enthuse and interest the students in the field of communication, radio and research. He makes sure that the entire class duly understands the importance of his subject.

MAHE is immensely proud and honoured to house such an esteemed professor. We are happy to witness the ongoing success of Dr Padmakumar K and hope to support him in every way possible to achieve greater heights.

"Studying Business Administration online can be tough especially when you have accounting and financial subjects. But then, with the help of the faculty utilising smart boards and explaining each step clearly the students were able to understand and learn the concepts well."
- Disha Mitra, BBA, DOC, 2nd year

"The quasi online offline mode was a blessing in disguise. Being on campus is helpful as resources like labs and libraries were available to us, at the same time, our safety was also taken care off. I was able to discover myself and cement amazing friendships."
- Yashas M, B Pharma, MCOPS, 2nd year

STANCES ON DISTANCES

"Things have gotten a little monotonous as the offline classes have continued for the past 2 years. But I think there is a mutual understanding between the professors and the students as we had known them because we had offline classes for one year of our course. So, yeah, all we can do is be hopeful."
- Suditi Jha, BAMC, MIC, 3rd year

"Online practical labs were conducted for mechanical students on MS Teams. Our professors showed us pre-recorded videos of experiments recorded in our labs. But the online labs were not effective enough. So we were called back to campus, which made things easier."
- Sanchit Mehra, Mechanical Engineering, MIT, 3rd year

Future of Work and how to navigate through it

Kandlakunta Navya

The future of work is defined by several fast and large-scale changes that affect all industries. The experts emphasize the growing unification of digital technologies in the workplace, including artificial intelligence and machine learning, the robotization of employment and the automation of job tasks.

It is being formed by two powerful forces: The increasing adaptation of artificial intelligence in the workplace and the expansion of the workforce to include both on and off the balance sheet talent.

These forces of change have created new realities that present us with challenging questions to consider, including how we plan for 50-60 year careers, how we unleash the continuation of talent resources and the ethics around human-machine collaboration.

As per the American commentator and politician Thomas Friedman, "What's going on is that work is being disconnected from jobs, and jobs and work are being disconnected from the companies, which are increasingly becoming the platforms."

Demographic shifts, new technologies and the impact of Covid-19 on the market have been entirely transforming how organizations conduct business and the kind of skills and talent they need to help them thrive during this new age of work. Additionally, since the people have realised that it is possible to work from home, many of them are not willing to go back to office spaces anymore.

It is predicted that more than half of the employees would require major up and reskilling and automation would reduce their full-time

workforce. The Covid-19 pandemic has intensified these trends, increasing the requirement for large-scale, informed and collaborative action.

So, when it comes to the future of work, no one is certain about what new industries will emerge and the skill sets that will be required. The only thing we know is that the future of work will be thoroughly different from today's work environment, and the pace of change will be rapid than anyone predicts.

The key to helping the employees and the organizations successfully navigate the career changes ahead is for both of them to eliminate the notion of career longevity and skill durability.

The modern work environment must be embraced by both the employees and companies to figure out

ways to make the best out of each opportunity as it emerges. Development and learning and educators and HR leaders should look to a couple of areas to pull this off.

It is clear that the future of work will be entirely different from the current work environment. To keep up with these changes, people must prepare themselves to be open to a broad mindset and skillset, and be more adaptable.

As indicated by the World Economic Forum, basic skills like decision-making, problem-solving, and critical thinking are the foundations that establish a structure to help employees quickly identify changes in their environment.

The other essential requirement that the individuals would need for smooth work proceedings in the future is adaptability. Adapt-

ability is a crucial trait as individuals and organizations face new challenges and changing expectations at the workplace every day. The skillset that got a person promoted the previous week might be what causes their job to be eliminated the next.

The employees must stay focused on the future and their role in creating it. Success in the past cannot be taken as an indicator of the future. With the windows of opportunities getting smaller, how quickly the company responds and implements will be more important than the actual response.

As long as we collectively change the way we perceive work and develop our workforce, we are ready to take on these new assignments and roles.

An Overview of Abduction And Rape Of Young Women

Alankrita Mohapatra

There is not a single day without any news of the rape of young women in India. Abduction and rape have become so common, it feels like it has become a part of this society filled with patriarchal culture.

The safety of women in every corner of this nation is becoming increasingly questionable. Sexual assaults, harassment, abduction, rape, and any such sexual crime does not come with a glorious invitation.

Day after day, the rate of such harsh crimes and events is increasing and the nation is failing to keep its daughters, mothers, sisters and women as a whole safe and sound. The rape culture has become a major part of our country's culture gradually over the years, but it seems like the government and the authorities are turning a blind eye to it.

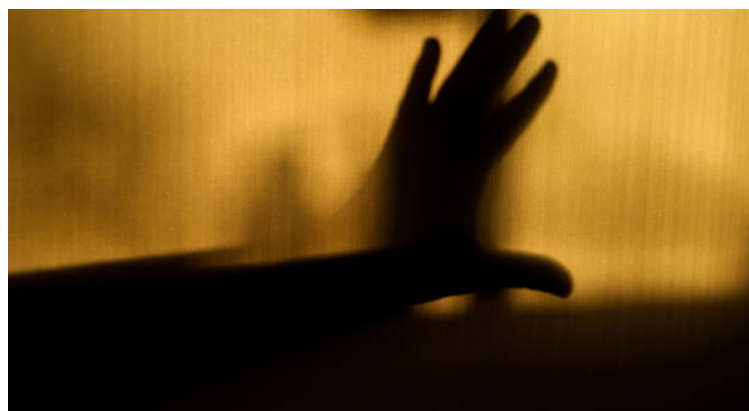


Image source: iStockPhoto

Starting from the Nirbhaya case of Delhi to a teenager getting abducted and raped in Coimbatore, many other such cases were in the limelight of the media as they were reported. Other than the cases we know, there are many of such cases that go without being reported. Due to marital, parental, political, and societal pressure, some of the families of the victims of such crimes prefer to suppress and shut down the case without re-

porting it to the police and without investigating it. According to the surveys and reports, India is supposedly the second most dangerous and unsafe country for women. Delhi, the capital of the nation, known for the highest number of crimes, remains at the top as the most dangerous city for women. Though there is a slight fall in the number of rape cases by 18 per cent, it still records the highest number of abduction cases

followed by Mumbai with 1,173 cases and Lucknow with 735 cases.

According to The Hindu, crimes against women in the Capital of the country have increased by 63.3 per cent in the first six months of 2021 as compared to 2020.

The most shocking part is the incapability of the Government of India and various state governments to provide the basic security and safety measures. Even in the year 2021, the government does not ensure the safety of women. It is a backlash for the whole nation. India is a developing country and it should also develop in terms of security and safety of women. Nothing is more beautiful than a nation, where its daughters can move around all happy, secure, sound, safe, and alone.

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Afghanistan's Formal Banking System. Worth It or Not?

Tejas

Money changers like Enayatullah and his financial lifeline found themselves in desperate demand as the Afghans pay increasing prices for eggs and flour and stand in long queues at the bank. Long before Afghanistan had a formal banking system, it had the Hawala system.

The Hawala system is the system where people send an equal amount of money between locations. The loans and transfers are recorded on ledgers, but the mon-



Image source: Forbes

ey does not have to change hands. This feature makes it easy to eradicate taxes, laundering ill-gotten grains and paying bribes. Hawala was

a necessity under Taliban led Afghanistan before the Americans invaded in 2001.

Enayatullah (meaning of God) is a group of informal

leaders with a global network of backroom bankers called Hawala. Taliban used Hawala to raise funds for their successful insurgency. Many households used their relatives to raise funds in Doha, Istanbul, Qatar and London. The economic aspect in Afghanistan would undergo a crashing revolt, without any funds raised from Hawala.

This can lead to the drying up of Foreign aid without Hawala's help as Afghans' prices and currencies are

surging and tumbling. The 9.4 billion dollars of the country in reserves is in a frozen state.

The Taliban won the war in Afghanistan, and this can lead to them having an economic drop. They have already been cut-off from the international banking system and the previous funding sources of the country like IMF, WB, and the United States.

Source: *The New York Times*, *Economic Times*

UNICEF: 77 Million Children have spent 18 months without On-Site Class

Tejas

UNICEF said that the entire world is facing an education crisis because of the Covid-19 pandemic, which has kept 77 million children out of the classroom for the past eighteen months. The UN agency closed their social media channels for eighteen hours to put one message across to the world, which is #ReopenSchools for children.

UNICEF mentioned that hundred and seventeen million students, representing

7.5 percent of the overall student population, are still affected by the complete stop of physical classes, and the number of countries with partly open schools decreased to forty-one from fifty-two over the same period. Schools have remained closed for eighteen months in five countries.

The education was provided through a combination of printed modules, online classes, TV and radio lessons in all the countries



Image Source: UNICEF

experiencing prolonged periods of closed schools.

The UN agency said that the right to go to school is a

significant part of the development, safety and well-being of a child for UNICEF, but yet, in many countries,

the education centres remain closed while social gatherings continue to take place in salons, gyms and restaurants.

According to the new numbers UNESCO released, faculties are open in hundred and seventeen international locations currently with 539 million in class again, starting from pre-primary to secondary level.

Source: *wap.business-standard.com*

The 76th UN General Assembly Kick-Started on Monday

Anirudh Sreekumar

UN General Assembly, 2021, was held on 14th September at the 7 World Trade Centre in New York City.

The newly elected President of the General Assembly, Abdulla Shahis of the Maldives was sworn in on the day of opening. The high-level General Debate will be Tuesday, 21st September 2021 and it will go on till the 27th of this month.

Due to the pandemic, it is said that a limited number of delegates will attend the General Assembly Hall and all officials have been advised to follow safety re-

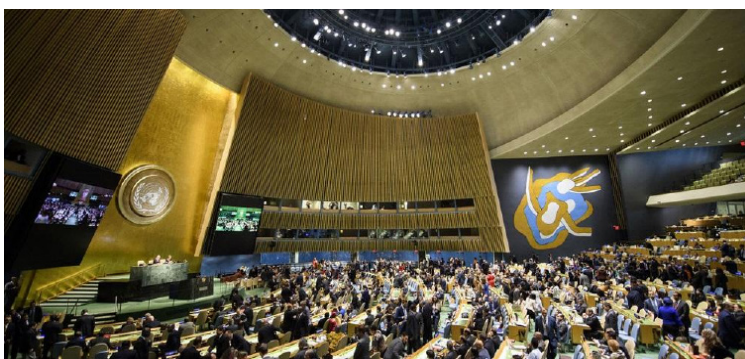


Image Credits: United Nations

strictions and guidelines. This year's UNGA is notable as it is the 'debut' of President Joe Biden as he tries to reinstate the United States' position of global leadership after Trump's 'America First' policy. The meeting kicked off with Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro who has

caught media criticism after his poor handling of the Covid-19 situation.

Indian PM Narendra Modi will be addressing the Assembly on 25th September. Key topics of discussions were Climate Change, The Covid-19 Pandemic and its effects, Backroom Talks on

an endangered Iranian Nuclear Deal, China's ambition to reach carbon neutrality before 2060, etc.

The Secretary-General's 'Our Common Agenda' report includes detailed recommendations on the global approach to the Covid-19 Pandemic, which could be a means to measure how much or how little Heads of States are proposing. The General Debate at the opening is accompanied by the simultaneous convening of numerous other events which usually run over a time period of 12 - 24 Hours. These events make use of the media attention that the

Heads of State attract in order to address important topics and problems that are of value to their respective countries or International Relations. The first-ever Food Systems Summit will take place on 23 September, with a completely virtual format.

On a lighter note, public figures like David Beckham and the greatest boy band "BTS" were present at the UNGA 76. The event was inaugurated with a live streamed performance by BTS. The UNGA 76 can be streamed live on the United Nations' Official YouTube Channel.

Brazilian Health Minister tests Covid positive on the second day of UNGA

Taliban asks to address world leaders at the United Nations General Assembly

US pledges to donate 500 million doses of Pfizer vaccine to developing nations

SC: Quarrel cannot be seen as instigation to commit suicide

Gaurav Das



Image Source: Cheena Kapoor

The Supreme Court stated that if a person is found guilty of a crime, they cannot be charged with aiding suicide just because they had a fight on the day of the incident. As per the Supreme Court, a mere quarrel on the day of the incident does not mean a person is guilty of the accusation of abetment of suicide under section 306 of the Indian Penal Code.

The accused and his wife consumed pesticide following an argument. Even though the accused survived, his wife died after consuming the herbicide and a charge sheet was filed under Section 306 IPC against the accused of the act, after a complaint placed by the brother of the deceased.

The Trial Court has condemned the accused to 7

years in jail and charged a fine of Rs 2500 for disregarding Section 306 of the Indian Penal Code, and 3 years in prison and a penalty of Rs 2500 for violating Section 4(b) of the Tamil Nadu Prohibition of Harassment of Women Act.

Additionally, the court said that the abetment happens when the accused has created circumstances that force the deceased to commit suicide as a result of their actions or omissions. According to the highest court, in this case, the charge against the appellant is that there was a fight on the day of the incident, but there is no other evidence that suggests abetment on the record.

Source: Livelaw, The Hindu

398 violent assaults in 2020 were related to anti-national elements

Gaurav Das

In 2020, 398 violent assaults were carried out by 'anti-national elements,' with 240 of them being carried out by left-wing extremists, 76 by Islamic terrorists, 45 by northeast rebels, and 37 by 'other terrorists,' says NCRB's 2020 report. According to the portion of the report on 'Crime in India' dealing with 'crimes by anti-national elements,' 80 civilians and 73 security officers were killed in anti-national confrontations/attacks in 2020, while 55 Maoists, 82 Islamist terrorists, and 37 other terrorists were also killed. This represents a 35 per cent increase in the number of cases reported in 2019.

Terrorists from the Islamic State also managed to wound 32 civilians and 22 security personnel. Counter-terrorism authorities, on the other hand, tended to neutralise 82 Islamic terrorists while arresting 17 others. In 2020, there were 441 incidents, including 240 acts perpetrated by left-



Image Source: Cheena Kapoor

wing extremists, including 119 attacks against police stations and camps. They were responsible for the deaths of 61 civilians and 37 security officers. Left-wing radicals also lost 55 people, 9 of whom were women cadres. A total of 554 Maoists were apprehended, with 327 surrenderings.

Insurgents in the northeast launched 45 strikes, down from 110 in 2019, killing three security personnel. A total of 46 insurgents have been apprehended.

In 2020, other terrorists carried out 37 attacks, killing eight civilians and 19 security people and injur-

ing 50 civilians and security personnel. Thirty-seven were neutralised, 66 were apprehended, and two surrendered.

Anti-nationalists took 76 weapons from police or Central police force officers, including 34 AK-series rifles, SLRs, and INSAS, as well as 30 mobile phones, nine wireless sets, and Rs19,500 in cash. The police seized 120 mobile phones, four binoculars, and two compasses from the anti-national elements, as well as 882kg of drugs and Rs27 lakh in cash.

Source: TOI, AAJTAJ

Gaurav Das

Around 7,000 Defence Ministry employees will relocate from pre-independence hutments in and around the Raisina Hills to the new office complexes the Prime Minister officially opened on September 16. The officials will create additional areas on Kasturba Gandhi Marg and Africa Avenue. The offices must be relocated as part of the Central Vista project's renovations.

The shift will take place in stages over the following months. The Ministry of Defence funded the construction of these office complexes at the cost of Rs 775 crores. The transition is required as part of the Central Vista project to accommodate the residence of the new Prime Minister.

7,000 employees from the Ministry of Defence to relocate to new offices for Central Vista Project



Image Source: DNA news

The project entails constructing a new parliament building and new office buildings for central government ministries and agencies. Approximately 50 acres of property will be evacuated as a part of the

relocation plan. Many of the offices were dispersed previously, but the authorities will now work more efficiently from the two new facilities. The new office complexes were regarded as 'clever' and 'environmental-

ly friendly' structures.

The Prime Minister claimed that the defence-related activity was carried out from hutments constructed during the pre-independence era to meet the demands of horse stables and

barracks for a long time. He praised the incorporation of appealing products by Indian artisans as symbols of 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat' in the complexes.

The Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry constructed the two buildings, totalling 9.60 lakh square feet of office space using the money granted by the Defence Ministry. According to the Prime Minister, the defence office buildings are a reflection of the government's shifting work culture and goals. One such objective is making the best and most efficient use of existing land with other government departments.

Source: TOI, INDIA TODAY

One of the most successful environmental agreements to date- The Montreal Protocol

Vaishnavi S

16th September is marked as the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, and it serves as a check to see how far we have come in terms of reducing ozone depletion. The Montreal Protocol was incepted to protect the ozone layer and was agreed to, globally. A united effort across the globe has shown its fruitful results, meaning that the ozone layer is slowly patching itself back together. It is hence, nourishing the biome and all the ecosystems contained within.

The ozone layer is a layer in the stratosphere of the atmosphere, composed of



Image Credits: UNPhoto / N. Kollar

an isotope of oxygen. It is a delicate blanket of gas that filters out the harmful rays of the sun from reaching the earth. Protecting this layer is of utmost importance,

as the efforts add up to so much more than just healing the layer. The Montreal Protocol also plays its hand in slowing down climate change, along with boost-

ing energy efficiency in the cooling sector.

A number of emissions from factories and our household machinery have proved to be fatal to the

atmosphere. Halocarbons, that are emitted from refrigerators and aerosols are the most harmful to the ozone layer. Following the proof provided by science, a convention for the protection of the ozone layer was held in Vienna. Twenty-eight countries adopted and signed the convention on 22nd March 1985. In September 1987, the Montreal Protocol was drafted, on the topic of Substances that Deplete Ozone Layer.

If we give in our contributions as well, and try to stay conscious in our efforts; we help and propel this protocol.

Source: United Nations

Global Warming to cause Extreme Weather Conditions by 2060

Vaishnavi S

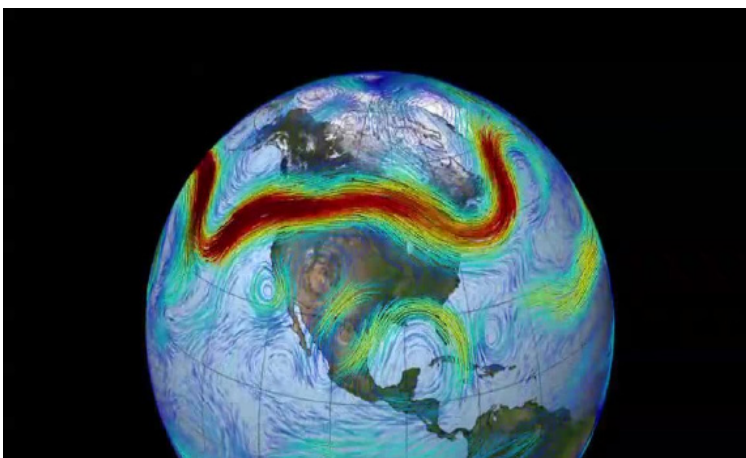


Image Credits: Earth.com

A study states that Global Warming will most likely create extreme weather conditions by the year 2060, mainly due to changes in the North Atlantic jet stream. Jet streams tend to change over time, and the reason remains unknown. The change in these streams has a huge impact on the climatic conditions.

According to the study conducted by the scientists, the present global warming conditions can result in a north-bound migration of these winds. If the emission of greenhouse gases isn't reduced beyond a marginal level, the increase in temperature of the atmosphere can direct the North Atlantic jet streams outside their habitual range of diver-

gence. Changes in them can heavily impact the weather conditions on either side of the Atlantic Ocean. The result could be the onslaught of extreme weather conditions by 2060.

The fast-flowing air currents in the atmosphere are called jet streams, whose course can determine the severity of climate change. The main author of this study, Matthew Osman made a stated, "Extraordinary variations in the jet stream can have severe societal implications, such as floods and droughts, due to its impacts on weather patterns." The study was presented in the September 21st issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Music-Producer Barbie Dolls to Highlight the Gender Gap in Music Production

Vaishnavi S

Mattel confronts the gender gap in the music industry head-on by unveiling music-producer barbie dolls. They used the iconic barbie doll for fighting the gender gap within the music industry. Women make for less than 3 percent of music producers. To shed light on these highly unfair statistics and to showcase the importance of women for the industry, they partnered with veteran songwriter-producer Ester Dean.

Mattel released the doll last week, saying "Barbie recognizes the barriers that impede girls from reaching their limitless potential and aims to level the playing field for girls as part of the Barbie Dream Gap Project," Barbie is also funding scholarships to provide girls better opportunities to pursue music and production. It is called 'Girls Make Beats.' They are also conducting a webinar with Dean for girls aged 5-17 to engage and aid in giving a platform for future female music producers.

The agenda behind this project is to remind girls of their limitless and endless potential in and across all



Image Credits: Mattel

fields of life. Owing to the popularity of these dolls among young girls, and the imagination that it spurs in these young minds; this project by Barbie will definitely have a huge impact.

Owing to the Covid-19 pandemic, the spirited fight in reducing the gap between male and female genders might now take more than 135 years. Previously it was about 99 years. The Global Gender Gap Report by the World Economic Forum conducted this study. In times like these, small steps taken by big houses like Mattel might go a long way. An entire generation of women might have to wait their turn for gender parity.

Barbie already has put across dolls covering in and

around two hundred professions. Mattel plans on extending this to as many professions as possible, in which the voice of a woman isn't enunciated enough.

A few people in our batch commented on the topic: Udit: "The Punjabi music-production industry mostly comprises of 25-30 year old males who mostly talk about materialistic things." whereas Jonah says, "The music industry currently comprises of womanizers and this tends to scare woman away from the industry as per my opinion." Sneha says "It is amazing that Barbie has decided to wtake action on this. It would be better if Barbie also created dolls with realistic body proportions."

Virat Kohli to step down as RCB Skipper after the end of IPL 2021

Vaishnavi S



Image Source: Sky Sports

Kohli announced that he will step down as RCB (Royal Challengers Bangalore) Skipper from the next issue of the IPL, just 3 days after his announcement of stepping down as T20I Captain. He will continue to play for the RCB franchise. He will be denouncing his captaincy title for the T20 International series after the end of the world cup in October-November.

“This will be my last IPL as Captain of RCB. I’ll continue to be an RCB player

till I play my last IPL game. I thank all the RCB fans for believing in me and supporting me.” : Virat Kohli.

Virat Kohli has been the captain for RCB since 2013, having played 132 matches for the team holding the position. The only other cricketer to have done this is MS Dhoni, having played 192 matches as CSK (Chennai Super Kings) Skipper. The declaration was posted on the social handles of RCB. It came on the eve of RCB’s first match in the second

leg of this IPL season. The franchise stated that it was Kohli’s personal choice and that he would like to focus more on his batting skills. It was a move to reduce the pressure and burden on his shoulders.

Kohli remains as one of the highest-paid cricketers in the pool, having adorned the bold red and gold of RCB right from 2008. He was a part of Anil Kumble and Rahul Dravid’s team before taking over as Captain.

Roald Dahl Story Company: Netflix’s Largest Purchase?

Gaurav Das



Image Source: Paramount Pictures

Netflix announced the acquisition of the Roald Dahl Story Company in a ground-breaking deal, intending to bring the writer’s classics to life in ‘creative new ways.’

The Roald Dahl Story Company has been purchased by Netflix, which brings some of the famed author’s classics to the streaming service, including Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Matilda, Fantastic Mr Fox, and many more. The purchase, revealed on September 22nd, is expected to be Netflix’s largest to date. The agreement was announced to bring out the most cherished stories’ in ‘innovative new ways.’

The streaming giant announced in a bit of teaser

film announcing the acquisition.

Ted Sarandos, the Co-CEO of Netflix, Luke Kelly, the managing director of the Roald Dahl Story Co., and Dahl’s grandson, said that these projects opened their eyes to a much more ambitious venture – the construction of a unique universe that spans animation and live-action films and television, publishing, games, immersive experiences, live theatre, consumer goods, and more.

The books of Roald Dahl have been translated into 63 languages and have sold over 300 million copies around the world, with each book-selling in a record-breaking 2.6 seconds.

Glamour glows in all colours!

Pranav Jagdish Shetty



Image Source: The Indian Express

Milan: Nigeria-born designer Joy Meribe made her debut runway collection at the Milan Fashion Week on Wednesday, marking a tangible success for a movement to promote diversity in Italian fashion only a year after its inception.

Meribe was designated by the Italian National Fashion Chamber to open six days of womenswear previews for Spring-Summer 2022, following the commercial success of her inaugural collec-

tion for the ‘We are Made in Italy’ initiative last year.

Stella Jean, an Italian-Haitian designer who assisted in the launch of this initiative in the summer of 2020, emphasised that the real test was whether or not clients would buy their products, and Joy Meribe passed that exam with flying colours. Joining her in the front row were Italy-based U.S.-born designer Edward Buchanan and Afro Fashion Week Milano founder Michelle

Ngonmo who too had their say on this excellent initiative.

The collection included tiered, ruffled skirts and jackets with built-in capes that were majestic from a viewing spectacle. The textiles were an explosion of bright yellow against sky blue, with tropic patterns portraying thatched huts against blooming banana trees, which Meribe described as celebrating a return to more normalcy. “We’ve come out of a dark period, and I wanted to create something full of hope and light, the thrill of starting over,” she explained backstage.

Meribe broke down in tears, appreciating the gesture of the fashion chamber and the movement’s founders for bringing her to the runway.



WHAT'S NEW?



Image Source: imdb

Games: Far Cry 6 is expected to come out on 7th October, 2021.

The content creators, who were given early access gave good reviews. It can be preordered online.

Jonah Paul Dias

Books: The Wish, by Nicholas Sparks, is anticipated to be released on 28th September, 2021. It is a contemporary romance and domestic fiction. It is up for preorders.

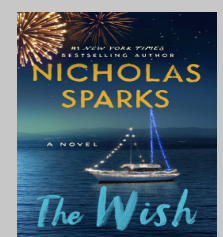


Image source: Goodreads

Vaishnavi S



Image source: VanityFair

Entertainment: Actor Ashton Sanders is set to star in the biopic of Whitney Houston, the music icon; as the singer, Bobby Brown.

Kandlakunta Navya