

# THE BEACON

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## Landing gear revamp uniforms

Chandana Trilok

The female cabin crew of British Airways will now be wearing jumpsuits along with the option to wear hijab for the first time in twenty years. The airways have revamped its uniforms for both male and female cabin crew which is created by Ozwald Boateng, a British tailor and designer. According to a press release from the company, the airline has provided a tunic and hijab option for female cabin crew and men will have an option of wearing a tailored three-piece suit with regular slim-fit style trousers. Female cabin crew will be able to wear jumpsuits, which the company describes as an 'airline first'. By summer, every member of the carrier's 30,000 frontline staff would be seen in the new uniform, beginning with engineers and ground handlers. Speaking to The Beacon, Karthi Sunil, a cabin crew member in British Airways, said, "Due to the dress code, many members of cabin crew feel uncomfortable and some girls drop their dream because of this. But now British Airways is providing an inclusive working environment for them." Boateng worked on a five-year-long project where he studied several airport roles to gain insight into how the uniform must function for each role and provide a contemporary British appearance with durable and high-quality textiles that are simple to maintain.

## Aatashala: A showcase of athletic prowess

Chandrasoodeshwar

**Bengaluru:** The Aatashala an Inter-Teach for India school sports meet was held on Tuesday at Mount Fort high school Chamarajpet, Bangalore. The meet was organised by fellows of TFI.

An average of 500 Students from 18 Schools participated in the inter-school sports meet. There were seven athletic events conducted within two categories, with kho-kho as a group event.

Aatashala is part of the 'Be the change project', a mandated component of the second-year fellowship. "The idea behind creating an event like Aatashala is to bring out all the hidden talents from government school students... they have the talent but they don't have a particular platform where they can showcase their talent," said Yaswanth, one of the volunteers. More than



A run to win

Chandrasoodeshwar

20 volunteers from various NGOs, colleges and working professionals engaged themselves in the event.

Explaining TFI and its relation to the event, Sadia, one of the organisers said, "Teach for India fellowship

is the program where you are placed in either a low-income private or government school for two years and you are given certain subjects to teach. TFI pushes to immerse us in the communities and get to know them and also it's a

part of TFI to do a project in the second year and we ended up here creating Aatashala."

Speaking to The Beacon, Murugan Jeyachandran, one of the student coordinators, said, "Lot of our kids are quite good at sports, but we

are coming from low-income private schools. We don't have much of an opportunity like we don't have a ground so all that energy in our kids is quite good to see and all of that was used here and their confidence level also seems to go quite high. Two of my boys got first place and girls also got first place. So now when we go back to school we can tell that our kids can do much more than just studies."

"Even though organising this event took a lot of effort and planning, there is this little moment of joy that happens which makes it worth it. That's what TFI also teaches us. Challenges are just a learning process you know, you just learn to get better from it," Sadia opined.

Prizes were distributed by the chief guests, Hema, principal of Mount Fort school and Mahesh, Headmaster of Mount Fort.

## Building bridges from Boston to Bengaluru

Parnika, Jesblin, Abhirami

**Campus:** St Joseph's University is the bridge that could academically connect India and Boston, said Fr James Keenan, Canisius Professor of Theology, at Boston College.

St Joseph's University welcomed Fr James Keenan, and Bryan Fleming, Director of global engagement from Boston College, Tuesday. They were accompanied to studios and labs of the Institute of Communication and Media Studies by the Director of the institute Dr Fr Richard Rego.

Speaking to The Beacon, Fr Keenan said that they are



Fr Keenan and Fleming at SJU

Parnika

aware of the achievements of the institution, including the institution bagging the university status and hoped they could send their students here. When asked about the possible collaboration between the two institutions, Fr Keenan expressed that it's about attempting to build

bridges between the two schools. One of the results of this relationship would be student mobility. "We would like to see more of our students come here," he expressed. Their other suggestions included the collaboration of faculty members to conduct research. "A collaborative

project and faculty members undergoing sabbaticals at both institutions could be a desirable outcome. We are just trying to think of a variety of ways we call bridge building and then what areas should it be in...." he added.

The dignitaries visited nine departments of the university to decide on collaboration. "A year from now, I envision that our department of engineering will bring 15 students here to work with your school of social work in a fieldwork project that will take them 10 days to work in rural areas," Fr Keenan opined.

## ASHA workers woes unresolved

Meghana S

**Bengaluru:** Highlighting the plight of Asha workers, KV Bhat, the state president of Karnataka Rajya Akshara Dasoha Naukarara Sangha said neither they are paid the salaries nor incentives properly.

On December 27 2022, Asha workers all over Karnataka protested demanding unsettled wages for five months.

Asha workers get incentives like assisting in delivering a baby and ensuring vaccinations to children. There is a portal called 'Asha soft' where the incentives called '32 line items' get registered and based on which they receive the payment. Only 2 out of 4 services are registered in the portal, though these incentives are not provided timely. "There has been a problem in this software for the past year, and these workers work so hard; and, they are not provided with wages and incentives properly," said K V Bhat.

"We have requested the government to set up a system. There is a meeting on January 16 at Bangalore with higher officials to discuss these problems and find a solution," said Bhat.

## RRR Globally 'Nattufied'

Joyce Rodrigues

The soundtrack of the Telugu movie RRR 'Naatu Naatu' won the best original song at the Golden Globes 2023. The song is composed by MM Keeravani and written by Chandrabose.

The 80th edition of the Golden Globe awards was held in Beverly Hills California on January 11. The award seeks to honour the efforts of individuals in films and television shows.

Keeravaani received the award and thanked the fans for showing their love

and support for the song. He thanked the movie director S S Rajamouli for his guidance and Jr NTR.

The song battled with other nominations such as Taylor Swift's 'Carolina', 'Hold my hand' by BloodPop, 'Lift me up' by Rihanna and 'Ciao papa' by Guillermo Del Toro.

RRR was also nominated for best picture in Non-English category but fell short to gain the winning position. RRR was the only Indian film nominated for the Golden Globes awards. The last Indian to win Golden

Globes was A.R. Rahman for his song 'Jai Ho' in SlumDog Millionaire for best score as reported by Deccan Herald.

RRR was released last March and is directed by S. S. Rajamouli. The film featured Ram Charan and Jr NTR as the main lead.

Steven Spielberg's film 'The Fabelmans' grabbed two of the major awards which are for Best Director and Best Film in Drama. Cate Blanchett won Best Actress in Drama for her movie 'Tar' whereas Austin Butler won Best Actor for his acting in 'Elvis'.

## Discussion on art held at BIC

Kaustub

There is a problem of inequity and invisible power differences between Indian and western artists, said Diya Naidu, the dancer and choreographer on Monday at a panel discussion on contemporary dance at the Bangalore International Centre.

Contemporary dance is a form of dance that is a fusion of classical Indian dance with modern forms of dance from the west. "This dance also includes fusion with other art forms like theatre

and encourages creativity among its practitioners to adapt to a changing world," said Naidu.

The panel included Annete Leday, a French dancer and choreographer who came to India to learn and study Indian dance, Cyrille Larrieu, a filmmaker who made a film about modern Indian dance, Jayachandran Palazhi, a famous Indian dancer and choreographer in contemporary dance, and Parth Bharadwaj who is also a contemporary dancer.