

THE BEACON

PRACTICE NEWS BULLETIN OF THE PG STUDENTS OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

Thursday, 02 March 2023 / St. Joseph's University / Vol: 15 Issue: 71 / www.sjcdeptcomm.wordpress.com

NIMHANS connects well-being and science

Dhamini D

The National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) hosted a 'Mega Expo' on the occasion of National Science day. The event's theme was 'Global science for global well-being,' which aimed to create awareness of mental health and sciences.

The event held in the NIMHANS convention centre on Tuesday, witnessed participants from various schools and colleges take part in a variety of activities.

Speaking to The Beacon, one of the members of the core team said, "It is fascinating to see the turnout of students and adults alike, they are interested in the stalls and want to know more about the efforts we put behind."

Sneha (name changed), a volunteer, said that organising the event took weeks of planning. "Our intention was to highlight mental health and make the exhibits and knowledge accessible to everyone. That is the reason why the entry is free of cost for two days," she added.

The event demonstration 'Tele Manas' initiative of the Government of India to provide comprehensive digital mental health counselling and care services across the country through their toll-free helpline. The expo had stalls with interactive games and a film fiesta named 'Chalanachitrotsava' to bring attention to anxiety, schizophrenia, stroke, and depression, among others.

Shivamogga on the aviation map

Kannika Shembekar

Shivamogga Airport is renowned for its blend of Karnataka's tradition and cutting-edge technology, and is a motivation for a journey of the dreams of the youth of the district, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurating the airport.

The Shivamogga Airport constructed approximately for Rs 449 crores was officially inaugurated in Karnataka on Feb 27 by PM Modi. The opening of the airport marks an important turning point for the city as it will increase connectivity and

A platform to find the 'Prathibha' in you

Jeba Janet

Campus: St. Joseph's University has concluded an intra-college fest, known as "Prathibha." The event featured a diverse range of activities, contests, and programs presented by the finalists. The significance and value of events like Prathibha were emphasised by the chief guest, Mallika Prasad, a renowned actor, director, and theatre artist.

Prasad inaugurated the final day on February 28, along with Pro-Vice Chancellor Fr Swebert D'Silva and Vice-Chancellor Fr Victor Lobo. The fest officially began on January 30, and the Student Council was responsible for organising and conducting all the events. As part of the fest, the student council also conducted events such as Youth Week and Swagatha.

"The whole concept of Prathibha this year has



Mallika Prasad addressing the students

Chandrasoodeshwar

changed, and over 8000 students participated in the fest. For the first time, we have started a debate programme for teachers, and we have also installed more than 25 stores this year," said Ryan Roshan Roncalli, the president of the Student Council.

Prasad shared her experience of discovering her talent and how it all started at St. Joseph's College. She talked about how she participated in a theatre festival with a group of friends from the college and won awards and recognition for their

performance, which encouraged her to join the National School of Drama and continue pursuing her passion.

Prasad believes that the concept of 'finding talent' is overrated. "It is not like talent does not exist and is not important, but that

discovering one's talent is not as difficult as people make it out to be." She also highlighted that everyone is talented in some way. "We are actually hardwired for creativity as human beings. We learn to dance before we learn to walk, we paint before we learn to write, and we want to sing before we can even speak. Every one of us is creative and has some gift to give away to the rest of the world," she said.

She feels that skill application is the only way for talent to realise its full potential. Talent is meaningful only when it is combined with a willingness to work relentlessly. "Have faith in yourself and that unique gift that you have, and give it your all. You will always have a lot of people who will try to sway you one way or another."

Demand for greater allocation of budget

Yachi Jebisow

The amount spent on children in the budget in Assam has remained relatively small, and much needs to be done to achieve all-round growth of children, especially girls, said Anurag Das, the associate researcher and author of the study 'Assam Child Budget 2020-23 and Girls' Education.'

He was speaking at a seminar at the North Eastern Social Research Centre (NESRC), Guwahati.

On February 24, the Guwahati-based NESRC held a seminar and released a book that examined wheth-

er funding for programs and policies promoting the welfare and education of girls is sufficient to meet their demands.

Speaking to The Beacon, Das said, despite the state budget seeing large annual increases throughout the years, the allocation for the child has remained small. Even if Assam's educational system has advanced, major barriers remain in the way of a child's full growth, especially regarding the welfare and education of girls. The strategies that have been put forth so far fall short of addressing the reality on the

ground.

"It is surprising to find that child protection has been consistently receiving the least share of allocations in the State budget over the years despite the deteriorating situation that includes a steep rise in cases of child labour, child marriage, and child trafficking. It would be interesting to look at how the State Government addresses these issues in the upcoming budget. If not attended urgently, these issues can derail the cause of girls' education in Assam," said Das.

He further said, "The funds allocated for children

do not get to the grassroots level because there is a lack of awareness. You lack a solid system for informing others. Take "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" as an illustration. It's just a catchphrase. Nobody knows what this means in rural areas. You need a strong method to inform people of these plans. People are unaware of the beneficiaries, particularly for programs involving children."

The HAQ-Institute for Child Rights in New Delhi and the North Eastern Social Research Centre in Guwahati published the findings.

Art meets aesthetics at SJU

Angeline Claudia

The Association of Art and Animation of St Joseph's University organised its first-ever art exhibition to provide a platform for students to exhibit their artwork.

The exhibition which took place on Feb 27 under the supervision of faculty members Amal Roshan Sylvester and Jenil K George, was a lead-up to Artistica, an upcoming art event where students can showcase their talent, particularly in the field of art.

Speaking to The Beacon, Nishil, the Art and Animation Association president, said, "This is an open event where there was no theme, and I don't think a lot of people know about our association. So it was about getting recognition to our association and also to showcase the artwork of students of our association".

"We have been planning this exhibition for the last 2-3 weeks. And this is a beginning for Artistica; this will let people know that there is a department of Digital Media and Animation, where students are highly motivated towards their artwork," said George.

Opposing atrocity against minority

Bibhash Kalita

The continued vilification of minorities and communal conflicts have weakened the fight against the hegemonical forces even as their attacks on the Constitution and the working class have manifold, said Subhashini Ali, member of the Polit Bureau of the Communist Party of India. In a bid to unite against the discrimination faced by marginalised communities in India, several organisations including the Dalit Shoshane Mukti Manch (DSMM), All India Agricultural Work-

ers Union (AAWU), All India Dalit Rights Movement (AIDRM), Bharatiya Kisan Mansoor Union (BKMU) and All India Agriculture and Rural Labor Association (AIARLA) came together for a joint convention on February 26 at Gandhi Bhavan, Bengaluru. Speaking to The Beacon, Ali said, "We will very soon go back to the era of class discrimination, caste discrimination, gender discrimination and so on, under the manu-wadi system. All of us, the people of India will be deprived of our lives".