

THE BEACON

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

Wednesday, 31 January 2024 / St Joseph's University / Vol:16 Issue: 62 / www.sjcdeptcomm.wordpress.com

Dreams come true at RD camp

Pratham Basu

From joining NCC with the sole motive of skipping classes to being the only Junior Under Officer representing the Karnataka-Goa Directorate for the Republic Day parade, Devlakshmi opined that her journey stands as a testament to true dedication and hardwork.

During PM Modi's Republic Day address, he recognised the all-women contingent and highlighted the significance of "Nari-Shakti" in realising India's development goals by 2047. Devlakshmi, reflecting on the PM's words, recalls the immense pride and joy she felt as her months of sacrifices and rigorous training had finally borne fruit.

In the competitive training environment, friendships took the backseat. She recalls that passing the numerous trials in the 8 camps which she had attended proved to be a herculean task.

"The leadership and self-discipline that I learnt at NCC transformed me from being clueless to having a clear goal in life. The uniform instilled in me a sense of patriotism due to which I plan on joining the Officer Training Academy and realising my dream of becoming a marching leader for the Indian Army" she told The Beacon.

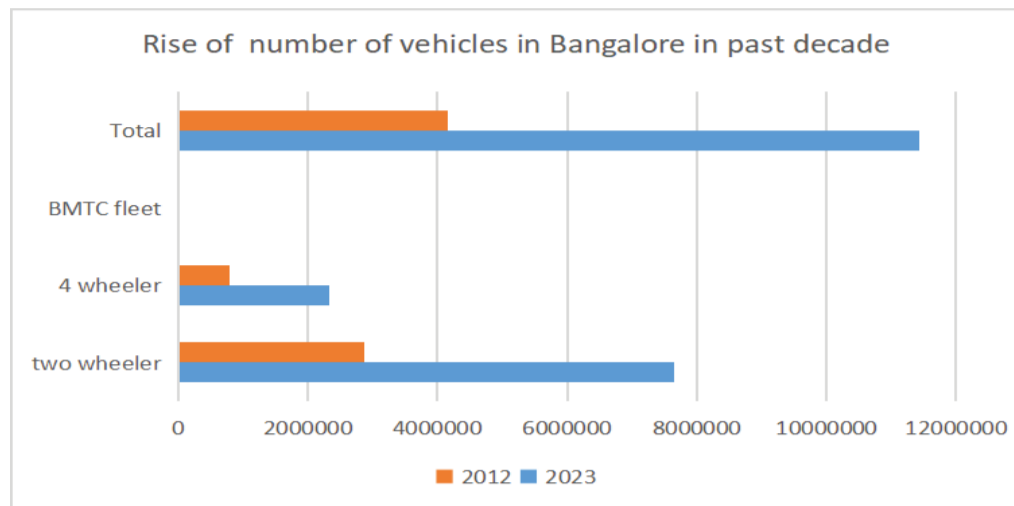
Recalling a riveting incident from her training days, where the cadet's phones were confiscated, Devlakshmi expressed that despite their initial disappointment, this proved fruitful. It liberated the cadets from distractions and forced them to forge deeper connections with the ones around them.

BMTC fleet stagnates while vehicle numbers rise

Dattatraya Datta

BENGALURU: Despite city planners worldwide, including India emphasising the need to strengthen the public transport system as a viable and sustainable mode of transit to combat the ugly traffic snarls, pollution and stress levels, a persistent problem the emerging cities across the world grapple with, data suggests that priorities of the successive Karnataka governments were misplaced.

In FY 2023, according to reports from the Transport Department of Karnataka, there were as many as 1.14 crore vehicles registered in Bengaluru city, while the BMTC fleet size remained at 6131. For perspective, data from a decade ago shows that in 2012, the number of two-wheelers and four-wheelers in the city of Bengaluru was 28.6 lakhs and 8 lakhs, respectively,



Statistical representation of number of vehicles in Bengaluru

Dattatraya

and the total number of registered non-transport and transport vehicles was around 41.56 lakhs. While there was a four-fold increase in the two and four-wheelers in the city, the BMTC fleet size was around 6064, suggesting a stagnation in the number of buses inducted into BMTC. This stagnation in the number of buses being

added to the BMTC may hinder efforts to address the challenges faced by emerging cities worldwide. The Government of Karnataka should increase the fleet size of BMTC to curb the traffic congestion issue in the city of Bengaluru, suggested Shaheen Shah, an activist of the Bus Prayanikara Vedike. The most efficient

way of resolving traffic congestion in the city is to invest in the most affordable and efficient public transport mode, the BMTC network. She opined that the Karnataka government has continually ignored the BMTC, and the majority of its operation is surviving on its ticket sales. A lack of funds for the BMTC has strained its

operations, as a lot of buses that are in operation should be retired and new ones should be added, besides increasing the fleet size. The Karnataka government's approach of constructing wider roads, one-way roads, or bypasses is not really a conducive solution as they only cater to private vehicles, opined Shah. Instead, to solve the issue of traffic congestion in the city, the Government of Karnataka should shift its focus to making buses a sought-after mode of public transport by making them more accessible, ensuring more people use them.

"Instead of spending crores on developing metro lines, the government of Karnataka should allocate more budget towards the BMTC, which would be really impactful in solving the traffic congestion issues within the city," added Shah.

Former president inaugurates Gandhian studies centre

Shoaib Shakeel

BENGALURU: The 14th President of India, Honorable Shri Ram Nath Kovind launched the Centre for Gandhian Studies at St. Joseph's University (SJU), Bengaluru during the sixth edition of OpenHeart 2024 on Monday.

OpenHeart is the flagship premiere talk show hosted by the Public Relations Office of the University, this edition of the show, hosted the former President with over a thousand attendees including students, teachers, faculty, and government officials. The International Students Information Brochure, which



Shri Ram Nath Kovind at SJU

Special Arrangement

serves as an invitation to talented individuals from around the world to join the academic community of St. Joseph's University was unveiled by the former President of the country.

The newly launched center aims to serve as a beacon for Gandhian principles, promoting truth, non-violence, and service to humanity. It represents the institution's

commitment to nurturing ethical leadership and social responsibility among its students and faculty.

Shri Ram Nath Kovind was accompanied by the Vice Chancellor, Rev. Dr Victor Lobo SJ along with Pro Vice Chancellor Dr Ronald Mascarenhas, Pro Vice Chancellor Dr Regina Mathias, Registrar Dr Melwin Colaco amongst other dignitaries at the event.

"You are the makers of your own destiny and one can best write their own destiny, by following their passion guided by their inner voice" said Shri Ram Nath Kovind.

PM Modi motivates students for success

Sadhika Dasgupta

Pariksha Pe Charcha seeks to transform stress into success by setting small goals, having a positive mindset, and knowing the proper use of technology and social media. During Pariksha Pe Charcha, PM Modi emphasised that learners should not be dissatisfied with life and once they have a determined approach, only positivity remains.

The 7th edition of Pariksha pe charcha was held on January 29 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. Pariksha pe charcha is held every year since 2018 where PM Narendra Modi directly interacts with school students.

He also encouraged students to set small goals during exam preparation and gradually improve their performance, this way it would help them to prepare themselves for exams.

There is no need to avoid technology, but it is important to know its proper use. He also mentions that there should be a "No gadget zone" in the house where students should refrain themselves from using mobile phones while eating.

E-Courts: SC's digital prowess

Sinchan Saha

Emphasising the Supreme Court's transition into a more tech-savvy space, Chief Justice of India, Chandrachud lauded the milestone, notably, the e-Courts project.

Following its conception in May 2023, the progress of this initiative was highlighted during the diamond jubilee celebration of the Supreme Court on Sunday, January 28, by Chandrachud. He mentioned that e-filings are currently available in 25 states, wherein 20 lakh cases were e-filed.

According to the Supreme Court's 2022-23 annual report, since the e-Court initiative has become operational, the progress has been significant: 5,32,968 matters were heard through video conferencing and physical hearing, and 1,27,775 matters were disposed of after hearing through video conferencing and physical hearing.

The Annual Report 2022-23 states that the SC's Indigenous Core Technology, a flagship case management software, the Integrated Case Management Information System (ICMIS), has

been continuously upgraded with the latest advancements.

"This initiative was an excellent move, as it provided for a larger inclusivity, an inclusivity down to the lowest of levels, because one of the main issues was accessibility. That has been broken by the fact that e-courts have been established and anyone in the country can have their petition filed, and they can appear in the comforts of their homes and have a full hearing," said Brijesh Kalappa, Advocate, Supreme Court of India, Eminent Activist, and Gandhian.

Gaming addiction: a growing concern

Anu Priya

BENGALURU: The rise in gaming addiction has become a growing concern as it poses a significant risk to an individual's mental and physical health.

A class eight student in Bengaluru accumulated a debt of Rs 30,000 due to his gaming addiction, which led to a financial burden on his parents. The boy's dependence on the phone for both academic and leisure activities gradually led to disinterest in studies, frustration, and reluctance to engage with his family.

"Since my husband and I both work and come home at 8

p.m., no one's around to watch him. We provided him with a phone for communication purposes and emergencies but he's been using it excessively," said the mother. I was concerned about his mental health, so I allowed him to relax by using the phone, but he soon became addicted to gaming within a month, she added.

The increased screen time and availability of online games led to the boy's addiction and subsequent behavioural changes, including a lack of eye contact, refusal to join family meals, and frustration towards schoolwork.