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Blood donation drive attempts to break the world record

Thanmaya Prakash

CAMPUS: In an attempt to break the world record by collecting 50,000 units of blood in a day, the Who is Hussain (WiH) Foundation organised on Saturday a blood donation drive in collaboration with NSS and NCC units of St. Joseph's University (SJU) and Narayana Health.

WiH Foundation partnered with several blood donor organisations across the globe. The Global Blood Heroes campaign aims to save 1,50,000 lives worldwide by collecting 50,000 units of blood. The current world record is 35,000 units of blood donated in a day in 2020. Dr Zakaria Abbas, Consultant of Strategic Alliances in Narayana Health said the shortage of blood due to the pandemic has inspired them to take up this feat.

"The student community of SJU has been very active and supportive. We aim to collect 1000 units of blood from this university," he added.

"World Record breaking achievement was a great venture to save other lives globally with a selfless contribution by all," said Prof. Selwyn Paul J, coordinator of the NSS unit, SJU. He further added that such donation drives created a sense of oneness among the students.

"It is my first time donating blood and since it's conducted on campus, it's a great opportunity for us," said Avni, a student of M.Com.

Chak De! India: Clash of Clans

Mukesh N

The future of the Men's Indian Cricket team seems bright under the captaincy of Rohit Sharma who is currently leading the men in blues. India kickstarted its Asia Cup 2022 campaign with a spectacular win against its arch-rival Pakistan and this is the first major tournament led by Rohit, after becoming the full-time captain in all three formats of the game.

The longtime rivals played their first match of the tournament on Sunday, at Dubai International Cricket

'Release of rapists sets a dangerous precedent'

Gautam Nagar

BENGALURU: The recent release of the convicts involved in the gang-rape case of Bilkis Bano sets a dangerous precedent and the effect of which is not confined to one community or religion said Hemlatha Mahishi on Monday.

She was addressing a state-level convention at KR Circle organised by the All India Mahila Samskruthika Sanghatane (AIMSS) voicing support for Bilkis Bano. The convention witnessed the presence of experts ranging from advocates, activists and writers.

Mahishi, a senior advocate and social activist condemned the welcome meted out to the criminals following their release and upheld Bano's role as a model for women across the country.

"It is very shocking that after the release of criminals they were welcomed with garlands



From Sharmila addressing the AIMSS convention

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and sweets. Bilkis Bano who fought for justice all these years facing life threats stands as a role model to all women in society," she stated, while also urging the government of Gujarat to provide security to the victim and her family members.

Prof. Ravivarma Kumar, a

former Advocate General and chief guest of the convention demanded a reversal of the decision on providing remission to the gang-rape convicts. While addressing the gathering, he lamented, "It is a shame that this decision was taken amid the 75th Independence Day of the country. Hu-

man rights are not negotiable. Injustice to Bilkis Bano is an injustice to the whole world."

Aparna BR, president of AIMSS said that the recent proceedings are not only unjustified but inhuman as well. "We are living in a culturally degraded system, but there is hope before us." She urged the wom-

en folk to draw inspiration from the farm protests and carry on this movement for social justice.

Social activist Irom Sharmila echoed Aparna's views, and stated, "The voice of the people is ultimately important, and we should stand together in this fight."

It's time for citizens to act and remit justice say activists

Sanjana Anand

BENGALURU: Terming the decision of the Gujarat government of releasing the convicts in the Bilkis Bano case as unjustified, Aparna BR, president of AIMSS on Monday said this has bestowed responsibility on the shoulders of the citizens to come together and protest and stand for social justice.

Numerous activists and advocates on Monday held a convention protesting the government's move of granting remission to convicts in the Bilkis Bano case. "This issue is not confined to any



United in a fight for justice

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community or person; rather it is a question of humanity. We should create a public opinion on this issue. We are living in a culturally degraded system but there is hope before us. We should bear this responsibility on our shoul-

ders to take this movement forward," said Aparna.

While delivering a keynote address, AIMSS State secretary Shobha S, enlightened about the protest held by women across the country. "Women, whether educated

or uneducated, are expressing their outrage on this issue. In Karnataka, protests were held and a memorandum was submitted to the honourable president of the country through

respective district commissioners," she further added. Hemalatha Mahishi, a senior advocate and social activist addressing the gathering, said, "We all have assembled

to raise our voice in support of the victims. The issue is not pertaining to a particular community or religion. It is our silence that sets a precedent." She also expressed her dismay on how the criminals were being welcomed.

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Sports Day: Does money matter or talent?

Mythri C.

BENGALURU: Despite the government creating opportunities to encourage students to participate in sports, a significant share of students from middle-class families is shying away from taking up sports as a career.

Every year on the 29th of August, India celebrates National Sports Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of Major Dhyan Chand, the hockey legend. This year the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS) and 'Fit India Mission' have aimed to take the FIT India movement to all institutions by encouraging them to participate in sports or fitness activities for at least one hour to raise awareness about sports.

"Coming from middle-class family background, there has always been financial difficulty and pressure from my parents which hindered my opportunities to pursue sports as my career. Most of the sports academies are expensive," says Meghana, an engineering graduate. "The government and the colleges should try to create more opportunities for such people," she added.

Ban on meat sale ahead of Chaturthi

Arushi Srivastava

BENGALURU: On the occasion of Ganesha Chaturthi, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has yet again imposed a ban on the slaughter of cattle and meat sales within the BBMP jurisdiction.

BBMP issued a circular to this effect yesterday and this evoked a mixed response from the citizens of Bengaluru. "Since Ganesha Chaturthi is one of the auspicious festivals for Hindus, people who do not celebrate should respect the sentiments of the

people who celebrate it," said Harsha N, a resident of Anekal.

Arjun M, another resident of Bangalore, said, "The government should not ban the sale of meat; it's on a person what they want to eat during the festival; don't force the rules of the eating habits on somebody who isn't interested."

Karnataka had noticed a ban on meat sales during several Hindu festivals such as Mahashivratri and Krishna Janmashtami. Meat sale was also banned on the occasion of Ganesha Chaturthi last year.