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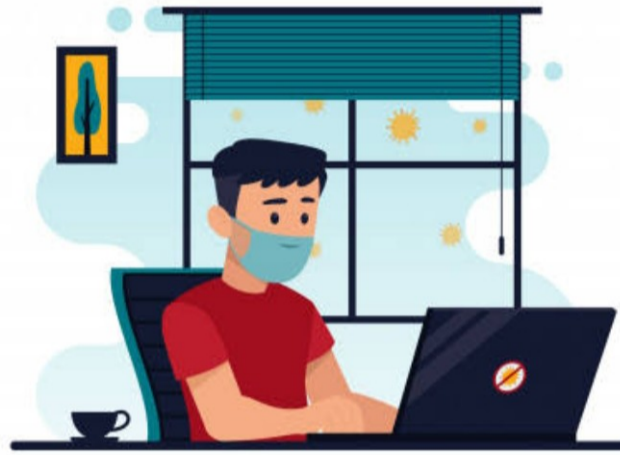
People wary of 4-day work weeks

Anna Mariam I

BENGALURU: With the Central government formulating new labour codes that allow a three-day weekend with a four-day work week, many corporate and private-sector employees are sceptical about the number of working hours.

"Because people are already working from home, they are already working 10-12 hours every day. If that continues, they will not feel any difference," an IT employee who did not wish to be named told The Beacon.

"They are prone to wasting time and roaming around in the house, and compensating for that by working more hours just does not seem ideal," he added.



Extra work hours takes toll

Credit : Freepik

Akash James, a corporate employee said, "The teams that work as support cannot

really have a three-day weekend unless their employers hire more people

for it. One might also argue that there's now a longer gap: enough to throw employees

out of sync with work."

He added: "Also, working longer hours every day may not be productive because there's only so much a person can do. By reducing the days from five to four, it increases daily work hours by 25 percent."

He also said: "The pros are more related to work-life balance, as it gives you more time for your personal life. However, this applies differently to various people from different domains, job titles, etc," he said.

"If the Central government wants to do this, let another decision be brought up wherein they consider to increase the salaries that suit the 12-hours jobs," said Shankar V, an employee of Accenture Solutions Pvt Ltd.

Editors Guild slams Centre over raid on NewsClick

Jesly Pulikotil

BENGALURU: The Editors Guild of India (EGI) on Wednesday, February 10, once again expressed resentment over government agencies being used to allegedly suppress the free press.

This was in response to the raids conducted by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) at the office of NewsClick.in and the residences of people associated with it.

In a statement released on Twitter, the EGI said: "The website has been at the frontline of reporting on the farmer's agitations, the anti-CAA protests, has been critical of various government policies and of a few powerful corporate houses."

The guild also demanded that the website's journalists and stakeholders not be harassed "under the garb of such measures".

On Tuesday, the ED conducted raids at the news portal's office over allegations of money laundering, and probed if the company received foreign funds.

Raids were also conducted at the residences of Prabir Purkayastha, the website's editor-in-chief and other senior journalists.

KSET 2021: Online registrations underway

Riya Joseph

Registrations are well underway for the Karnataka State Eligibility Test (KSET) 2021 for the post of Assistant Professor, to be held on April 11 this year.

Candidates can apply online for KSET 2021 by accessing the official website <http://kset.uni-mysore.ac.in>.

The three-hour KSET will be conducted in 11 centres across Karnataka.

Candidates can select any one of the preferred centres to appear for the test.

Candidates who are pursuing a postgraduate degree (first or second semester) are also eligible to apply.

Candidates who have appeared for their final year examination for a master's degree, and whose result is still awaited, may also apply, as can candidates whose qualifying examinations have been delayed.

The last date for the submission of online applications is March 7.

However, online applications may be accepted with late fee of Rs 250 up until March 13.

Tapovan tunnel: Rescue efforts on

Abhimanyu Sharma

KOTA: After the catastrophic glacial burst in Uttarakhand on February 7, the Tapovan tunnel is the latest focal point of the rescue operations being conducted by a joint team of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and the Uttarakhand Police.

It is estimated that over 30 people are stuck in the Tapovan tunnel. Authorities are racing against time to



Rescue force on ground

Credit : Twitter/ANI

rescue the survivors from the 12 feet high and about 2.5 km long tunnel that flooded after the glacial burst.

"A joint team of NDRF, SDRF (State Disaster Response Force) and ITBP entered the tunnel this

morning. The tunnel is approachable till about 120 meters and more slush and water is coming out from the tunnel," wrote ITBP on its official Twitter handle, informing the public of the rescue mission's progress.

There have also been speculations that 93 NTPC workers are missing and around 39 of them are stuck in the tunnel.

The death toll in the glacial burst now stands over 30, with dozens — if not hundreds — of people still missing.

Oscar shortlist out: Jallikattu out of race

Shahul Hameed

Malayalam film Jallikattu, India's official entry to the Oscars in the Best International Feature Film category, failed to make it to the shortlist when the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences announced a shortlist in nine categories for the 93rd Academy Awards on Wednesday, Indian time.

The academy announced a shortlist for the categories Documentary Feature, Documentary Short Subject,

International Feature Film, Makeup and Hairstyling, Music (Original Score), Animated Short Film, Live Action Short Film and Visual Effects.

Each category shortlist has 15 films.

Christopher Nolan's Tenet was shortlisted in the Music and Visual Effects categories.

Voting for the top spots will be carried out from March 10 and the final nominations will be announced on March 15.

The Oscars ceremony will air on April 25.

Pandemic pangs hit Kolkata's autos

Varsha Benedict

KOLKATA: "There is no way we can make up for the losses we faced during the pandemic. We have been facing a huge competition from Ola Bikes, Rapido and Uber," said Shambhu Das, a 33-year-old auto-rickshaw driver from Kolkata.

Das, a member of the auto committee that governs from Park Circus to Tagore Park, is not alone. This is the case with most auto-drivers in Kolkata, where auto-rickshaws ply on the sharing model, ferrying four-five passengers short distances for small sums.



Representational image

Credit: Creative Commons

"The losses are only increasing, and there is no way to meet the loss until schools and colleges resume," said Shikhu, another auto-rickshaw driver. "The passengers are very

few, and we hardly make a profit despite working all day," he added.

"We have now ensured that our autos run on alternate days and earn us enough for a meal," said Das.