

Central Chronicle

Founder: Late Shri Ramgopal Maheshwari

Inspiration: Late Shri Prafulla Kumar Maheshwari

EDITORIAL

Challenges of Gender-gap

'SWATI' (Science for Women-A Technology & Innovation) Portal launched in New Delhi to create a single online portal representing Indian Women and Girls in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics & Medicine)

Launching the Portal on the occasion of International Day of Women and Girls in Science at Indian National Science Academy (INSA), New Delhi, Prof Sood said, the database of SWATI Portal will serve in policy making to address the challenges of Gender-gap

The Portal is a complete interactive database; and the first-of-its-kind in India which is developed, hosted and maintained by the National Institute of Plant Genome Research (NIPGR), New Delhi

This is a dynamically growing portal and the endeavour is to have data of all women scientists of the country included: Dr Subhra Chakraborty.

In 21st Century, we still have way to go to address Gender Parity in all sectors of life: Prof. Quarraisha Abdool Karim

This is the initiative of Inter Academy Panel (IAP) on Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics & Medicine (STEMM)

Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India Prof Ajay Kumar Sood today launched "Science for Women-A Technology & Innovation (SWATI)" Portal, aimed at creating a single online portal representing Indian Women and Girls in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics & Medicine) Launching the Portal on the occasion of International Day of Women and Girls in Science at Indian National Science Academy (INSA), New Delhi, Prof Sood said, the database of SWATI Portal will serve in policy making to address the challenges of Gender-gap.

The Portal is a complete interactive database; and the first-of-its-kind in India which is developed, hosted and maintained by the National Institute of Plant Genome Research (NIPGR), New Delhi under the leadership of Dr. Subhra Chakraborty, Director, NIPGR, New Delhi; Link to join SWATI:

https://bit.ly/JoinSWATI.

Dr Chakraborty in her address highlighted this aspect and said that this probably world's first Interactive Portal of its kind. She also quoted figures of 2021 UN Report to highlight the under representation of women across all sectors.

Dr Chakraborty reiterated that this is a dynamically growing portal and the endeavour is to have data of all women scientists of the country included.

Prof. Quarraisha Abdool Karim, President TWAS, in her Keynote Address said that even in 21st Century, we still have way to go to address Gender Parity in all sectors of life. She said, education is a great equalizer and access to it must be made available to women and girls across all streams. The event was organized with a view to focusing on the importance of "Science for Women & Women in Science" as well as emerging opportunities and inclusiveness of women in S&T endeavours. This will be beneficial towards dissemination of knowledge, new advances in fundamental science and role/importance of innovation and entrepreneurship development in strengthening the backbone of Atmanirbhar Bharat. This would also provide an opportunity to discuss and evolve a roadmap for 'Women in Science' & 'Science for Women'.

The other objectives of the SWATI Portal include to scale up the effort exponentially to include each and every Indian woman in science, across all career stages and subjects, spanning both Academia and the Industry enabling reliable and statistically significant long term research on the issues of equality, diversity and inclusivity in India; Inclusion of each and every Indian WIS, career stages, subjects, spanning both Academia and the Industry; Enabling reliable and statistically significant long term research on the issues of equality, diversity and inclusivity in India, developed active search engine and searchable database (Name, Affiliation, Area of Interest). The event was graced by the distinguished scientists of national/international repute.

Why do officers wake up only after deaths and explosions?

by Amitabh Pandey

You turn the pages of the last one year. Once or twice a year, somewhere in the country or state, you will definitely get to read or hear the events mentioned below. "Death due to poisonous liquor", "Child dies after falling into borewell", "Many people die due to explosion in firecracker factory".

Such incidents are often read, heard and seen in newspapers and TV channels. Can you tell what is the similarity between those who died due to poisonous liquor, those who fell into borewells and those who lost their lives in a firecracker factory explosion?

Those who died in all these incidents are from the poor, working class. Why are the victims of such incidents only people from weaker sections?

When such incidents happen, the administration wakes up.

Big leaders and officials rush towards the spot. Visit to the incident site, investigation, statements of top leaders and officers, allegations of opposition, condolence messages, announcement of compensation, statement regarding relief arrangements for the injured, formation of investigation committee for the incident, show cause notice to two-four employees, and then suspension of some small employees. Transfer of one or two senior officers.

Don't do anything after this., Let us assume that all the details of the incident have been fulfilled.

Then what happens is that people

gradually start forgetting such incidents. From government offices to the corridors of politics, everything slowly starts becoming normal.

Administration, officers and employees start working back in their offices as has become their habit. After the incident, all the safety related instructions and policies and rules that were given get lost somewhere in

died in a fire in the firecracker market in Ranipura market of Indore. On October 20, 2022, 4 people died in an explosion at a firecracker factory in Morena.

On October 21, 2023, 6 people ere killed in an explosion in the firecracker factory of Damoh.

The series of deaths of firecracker factory workers in different cities of

and tehsil level and ensuring strict adherence to the rules.

If State Ministry officials come out of their air-conditioned chambers and inspect such institutions and dangerous factories from time to time, then accidents will definitely be stopped. Till now only the poor have died in such incidents, hence. The officer is not serious about surprise inspection.

The government does not pay attention to strictly following the administration rules.

If a death occurs in an accident, an effort is made to compensate for it by giving compensation and it is considered that the government officer has fulfilled his responsibility.

Recently, after the explosion in the firecracker factory in Harda, compensation was given to the dead, treatment of the injured and suspension of some employees, it seems that this incident will also be forgotten in the coming days.

Claims of strict monitoring of such factories will remain buried in the files. If this continues, it will be very difficult to stop such sudden incidents from happening to the poor and weaker sections of the society.

The strong will power required in the administration for this is not visible at present. If the lockout in the factories after the accident will only stop the livelihood of the workers, then the shutdown should be due to chaos and government negligence.

As happened recently in Harda district of Madhya Pradesh, the explosion that took place in the firecracker factory there took the lives of more than 11 people. This is not the first time such an accident has happened in Madhya Pradesh. Before this, on 15 December 2015, 105 people died due to a firecracker explosion in Petlawad in Jhabua district.

the files. Such cases go on the back burner. Sadly, after a few months, such an incident happens again somewhere.

As happened recently in Harda district of Madhya Pradesh. The explosion that took place in the firecracker factory there took the lives of more than 11 people. This is not the first time such an accident has happened in Madhya Pradesh. Before this, on 15 December 2015, 105 people died due to a firecracker explosion in Petlawad in Jhabua district.

The investigation report that was to come out in this case could not be made public even after 9 years. Similarly, on April 18, 2017, 7 people

the country and state continues. Policy, rules and instructions are also continuously issued by the government to prevent such incidents. Even after this, deaths continue to occur. The accidents do not stop.

In such a situation, the question is, whose responsibility will be decided for preventing these recurring accidents and when? Are the officers and employees who are responsible for regular inspection and taking care of following the rules, performing their responsibilities well?

If this is possible then accidents can be prevented. Senior officers will also have to be strict in inspecting the officers and employees at the district

Deeper Dive into Delayed Deliveries in Indian Real Estate developers

by Nitin Saxena

While the emotional stress and disrupted life plans for buyers are undeniable, the impact of delayed deliveries extends far beyond personal inconvenience.

Let's explore the wider ramifications: Financial Strain: Buyers paying EMIs while stuck in rented accommodation face a double burden. This erodes savings and can lead to debt traps.

Lost Interest Tax Benefits: Under Section 24D, income tax deduction on home loan interest hinges on timely possession. Delays translate to lost benefits, adding to the financial burden.

Economic Stagnation: Delayed projects stall investments, impacting employment in construction and allied industries. This hinders economic growth and development.

Eroded Trust: Unfulfilled promises damage the reputation of developers and the entire real estate sector, reducing investor confidence and



hindering market growth.

Potential Reforms

Strengthening RERA: Stricter implementation with faster dispute resolution mechanisms and harsher penalties for developers flouting deadlines.

Project Escrow Accounts: Mandatory

bureaucratic processes and promoting single-window clearance systems to reduce approval delays.

Pre-sale Regulations: Stringent pre-sale norms based on secured approvals and land ownership to avoid speculative launches.

Legal Recourse for Buyers

RERA Complaints: Buyers can file complaints with RERA authorities seeking compensation for delays and deficiency in services.

Consumer Forums: Legal action for compensation and possession under the Consumer Protection Act can be initiated. Civil Courts: Seeking damages for breach of contract and mental agony through civil suits is an option.

Moving Forward: Addressing delayed deliveries requires a multi-pronged approach. Empowering buyers, strengthening regulations, and fostering transparency are key steps. By working together, stakeholders can ensure the Indian real estate sector delivers not just promises, but homes, on time and as promised.

Faster Approvals: Streamlining

Sports

Football distributed to 1260 Schools in Odisha

The Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education, in collaboration with All India Football Federation (AIFF) and Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) has launched the ambitious Football for Schools (F4S) programme of FIFA for school students across the country. The programme aims to significantly broaden the accessibility of football for students, regardless of gender, within the school setting, while seamlessly integrating football-related activities into the education system in collaboration with various stakeholders. Under the programme, on 9th February 2024, 6848 footballs were distributed to 1260 Schools of 17 Districts of Odisha. The footballs were distributed from Nodal district NVS with the presence of local dignitaries from various fields.

The kick-off of the distribution of balls was launched by Shri Dharmendra Pradhan on 2nd December 2023 from JNV Cuttack, Odisha. Further, the footballs were distributed in the districts of Angul, Dhenkanal and Deogarh in Odisha; and Goa, Maharashtra, Gujarat and UT of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu in a phased manner.

An MoU was earlier signed between the Ministry of Education, AIFF and FIFA on 30 October 2022. Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya is the Nodal organization for the F4S programme.

Under this programme, more than 11 lakh FIFA footballs are to be distributed throughout the country in a phased manner. More than 1.50

lakh schools will benefit from this programme. As a part of the programme, to enhance capacity building, recently the department has conducted a master training programme at 3 venues, viz., Sambalpur, Pune and Bengaluru where around 300 physical education teachers/trainees from States/UTs, KVS, NVS and AIFF across India participated with an aim to learn from the best and further use their training and skills as Master Trainers at State level for further capacity building in the field.

F4S aims to contribute to the education, development, and empowerment of around 700 million children across the world. It seeks to make football more accessible to both boys and girls by incorporating football activities into the education system, in partnership with relevant authorities and stakeholders.

Through the F4S programme, the aim has also been to significantly broaden the accessibility of football for students, regardless of gender, within the school setting, while seamlessly integrating football-related activities into the education system in collaboration with various stakeholders. By fostering partnerships at different levels, the programme wishes to instil a sense of enthusiasm for the sport, laying the foundation for a lasting sports culture that goes beyond individual schools. It will not only introduce the joy of playing football to students but also infuse values of teamwork, discipline, and fitness, contributing to their holistic development.

Science Fact

Billion-dollar NASA mission will provide unprecedented view of ocean life

It isn't easy seeing green. The ocean's mix of plankton, algae, and bacteria absorbs vast amounts of carbon dioxide while producing 50% of Earth's oxygen. But for decades, Earth-observing satellites could not tease apart the many species making up the green goop. That hampered attempts to study how the floating plants influence climate—and how global warming is affecting this foundational component of the climate system. The \$964 million Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, Ocean Ecosystem (PACE) satellite is about to change that. After surviving pandemic delays and four cancellation attempts by former President Donald Trump's administration, it is set to launch no earlier than 6 February from Cape Canaveral, Florida, aboard a Falcon 9 rocket. Once in orbit, it will probe the plants floating in the ocean as well as the hazes of fine particles above it, another major influence on climate. "We're not going to be limited technologically anymore," says Collin Roesler, an optical oceanographer at Bowdoin College. "We're going to be limited by our ideas." The satellite's primary instrument is NASA's first "hyperspectral" imager to fly on a major geoscience mission. Rather than collecting reflected light in just a few discrete channels, like the red, green, and blue cones of a human eye, the instrument divides light into more than 200 channels, including many shades of green, which can distinguish different pigments used by phytoplankton depending on their species and habitat. "Right now, what we have on orbit is a box of crayons with only eight crayons," says Jeremy Werdell, the mission's principal investigator at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. "With PACE, we are getting a box of crayons with 200 different colors."



Spiritual

PRADOSH VRAT: This fast is observed to get the blessings of Lord Shiva. Know the worship method and importance

On the day of Trayodashi, Goddess Parvati and Lord Bholeshankar are worshipped during Pradosh period. The worship of Lord Shiva done on this day during Pradosh period is many times more fruitful.

According to the Panchang, Trayodashi Tithi falls twice in every month and Pradosh Vrat is observed on both Trayodashi Tithi. On this day, a fast is observed and Lord Shiva is worshipped. According to mythological belief, Lord Shiva becomes happy by observing this fast and fills the lives of his devotees with happiness, peace and prosperity. Whoever observes Pradosh fast with rules and devotion, all his troubles are destroyed. On the day of Trayodashi, Goddess Parvati and Lord Bholeshankar are worshipped during Pradosh period. The worship of Lord Shiva done on this day during Pradosh period is many times more fruitful. So let us know today when is Pradosh Vrat in the month of February and what is the auspicious time to worship Lord Shiva.

Pradosh vrat puja method

On the day of Pradosh fast, take bath in the morning and wear clean clothes. After this, remember Bholenath and resolve to fast and worship. Then, in the auspicious time of the evening, go to a Shiva temple or worship Lord Bholenath ritually at home. During the puja, bathe the Shivaling with Ganga water and cow's milk. After that apply white sandalwood paste. Offer Akshat, Belpatra, hemp, Dhatura, Shami leaves, white flowers, honey, ashes, sugar etc. to Lord Bholenath. During this, keep chanting Om Namah Shivay mantra. After the puja, recite Shiv Chalisa, Guru Pradosh Vrat Katha.



Letter to the Editor

Pakistan Elections

Dear Sir, The results out so far of the general elections in Pakistan may be indicating instability as no party has been able to emerge as a clear winner to form the government. PTI-backed independents' performance must have shocked Mr. Sharif and the military establishment backing him to the core. For, it highlights the democratic temperament of Pakistani people, who have in a way challenged the military might and radical elements. This is a good thing to happen for Pakistan. But, as the situation is still dominated by the military, it remains to be seen whether Pakistani military draws proper lessons from the election results or becomes more suppressive. A lot depends on Pakistani people's assertion of democratic values.

Karan Singh, Chennai

Bharat Ratna: An honour or a secret deal?

Dear Sir, The Modi government has decided to confer Bharat Ratna on former prime ministers Chaudhary Charan Singh, PV Narasimha Rao and Indian agriculture scientist Dr M S Swaminathan. This should be welcomed by each and everyone, because these are the great personalities who played a crucial role in the development of the country. But the time of conferment raises questions. Firstly, only three eminent personalities can get this award in a year, so why the government has chosen five for it this year? Secondly, if the government really honours them, they should have been awarded earlier. The way regional parties are leaving INDIA and joining NDA, it seems that there is a secret deal between these parties and the BJP to fulfil each other's wishes.

H.K. Isha'ati, Mumbai

Tech

Garena Free Fire Max redeem codes for February 2024: Claim free in-game goodies

Garena Free Fire Max is a revamped version of the original Free Fire game which was banned in February 2022 by the Indian government. The battle royale game has made a name for itself among the Indian masses with its vibrant graphics and intense gameplay.

Adding to the buzz around the game, its developers, 111 Dot Studios, release daily redeem codes that give users access to tons of paid stuff for free.

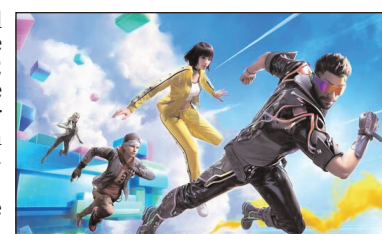
What are Free Fire Max redeem codes?

Garena Free Fire Max redeem codes are 12-digit alphanumeric codes made up of capital letters and numbers. By redeeming these codes, players can unlock various in-game rewards, providing them with exciting bonuses such as skins, weapons and character enhancements. The allure of these codes acts as a strategic marketing tactic, creating a sense of anticipation and reward among the player base.

Remember, the codes are only available for a limited time (up to 12 hours) and only to the first 500 users. So hurry up and redeem them before they run out.

How to use Free Fire Max redeem codes?

Begin the process of redeeming freebie codes by ensuring that you are logged into your Free Fire Account and not utilizing a Guest account.



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