

Central Chronicle

Founder: Late Shri Ramgopal Maheshwari
Inspiration: Late Shri Prafulla Kumar Maheshwari

EDITORIAL

Omkareshwar Project

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the country's largest Omkareshwar Floating Solar Project on Wednesday. On completion of this project, the state will get about 600 MW of electricity. With the construction of this power plant, 12 lakh metric tons of carbon dioxide emission can be prevented. It is being built in the reservoir of Omkareshwar. Its construction is to be done in two phases. The work of the first phase has been completed. It is also important that there are hydraulic, thermal power and solar power projects in Khandwa district itself. This will be the place in the country where about 5000 MW of electricity will be produced. Along with this, power tourism will also be promoted here. Here people will be able to see how hydraulic thermal power and solar power projects work. Obviously, India is not just giving speeches on international forums in the matter of environmental balance and global warming, but in reality a lot of work is being done in our country on green energy. Actually this is very important. The way electricity, water, roads are considered important in the concept of infrastructure. Similarly, environmental protection should also be considered as one of our basic needs.

Today, the temperature of the earth has increased by 1.5 to 2 percent, due to which the weather cycle of our country has been badly disturbed. Now sometimes there is unseasonal rain, sometimes the days of winter increase. The weather cycle which took thousands of years to bring into balance, took not more than 100-150 years to be disturbed. Hence, this is a big alarm bell. It is a known fact that the highest amount of carbon is in coal, oil and gas. Hence, we will have to reduce the amount of these three in the environment. First, we will have to reduce

this type of waste. Every family will have to reduce domestic electricity expenditure by 20 percent because electricity is also energy. Small fridges will have to be used in homes instead of refrigerators with big doors. Do not use petroleum vehicles for short distances, which will reduce carbon emissions. Actually, due to consumerist culture, today the garbage on earth has increased by 52 percent, which contains carbon, methane etc. Today, hundreds of times more invisible waste is released into the atmosphere than the visible waste released in a year. Special attention needs to be paid to this. 103 countries of the world had signed the global methane pledge to reduce methane emissions by 30 percent in the year 2030 as compared to 2020.

Methane is such a dangerous gas that it has 86 times more global warming potential than carbon dioxide over a period of 20 years. To avoid these dangerous consequences, global emissions will have to fall rapidly. However, India is among the hottest countries in the world. Here the availability of sun remains for about 10 months. In such a situation, a lot of work can be done in terms of solar energy. It is satisfying that the central government is working rapidly in this direction. The work that can be done at the government level is being done, but the general public will also have to help the government in this. Our lifestyle should be completely environment-friendly. By paying attention to small things, we can save a lot of energy and carbon emissions. Along with this, there is also a need that our school curriculum and college syllabus should also have courses on environmental protection and global warming. Social, cultural and religious organizations will also have to create public awareness in this matter, only then the situation will improve.

We cannot promote family life by restricting women's rights

SHOBHA SHUKLA - CNS
An anti-rights movement that is surreptitiously spreading its tentacles under the garb of 'protecting family values' is threatening gender equality, even as human rights activists call upon ending gender-based violence and protecting sexual and reproductive health and rights of all girls and women and other gender diverse communities.

being of women, the agreement tries to contravene international women's rights standards on health. Interestingly, this so-called 'consensus'

international human right to safe abortion," says Stephanie Musho, a human rights lawyer from Kenya and Regional Coordinator, Catalysts Africa.

ing a bill in Ghana that would impose lengthy prison sentences for LGBTQI+ people.

Musho reaffirms this: "Kenyan President enacted a new policy in 2023 - the Family Promotion and Protection Policy that restricts the options available to women in abusive marriages because it stigmatises divorce. This new policy is advancing the anti-right agenda and mainstreaming it in legal and policy frameworks. This so-called 'family' policy is deeply rooted in the global anti-rights anti-gender movement, which is spreading its tentacles across the African continent. They started with the anti-homophobic bills and laws that have been sweeping Africa in Ghana, Uganda, Kenya and Congo. CitizenGO is paying unsuspecting and unemployed Kenyan youth to advance misinformation and disinformation on Twitter/X. It has also been part of the movement that has completely ruptured sexual and reproductive health and rights and protection of women and girls and sexual minorities.

The anti-rights movements are well financed and well resourced, and they are advancing their detrimental positions against us feminists and the rights movement."

The Geneva Consensus Declaration represents an effort of the global anti-rights movement to misrepresent internationally agreed commitments that protect sexual and reproductive health and rights.

'Not everything that is termed 'Geneva' advances human rights and Geneva Consensus Declaration is one such example. It actually supports anti-rights movement in the garb of 'protection of family values' which a lot of us in Africa value so much. So, they have found perfect ways to advance their rhetoric under the pretext of protecting the family. Geneva Consensus Declaration does not recognise the

Another example is CitizenGO- a conservative and far-right anti-LGBTQI+ and anti-abortion advocacy group founded in Madrid, Spain in 2013 by the ultra-Catholic and far-right HazteOir organisation. It claims to 'promote life, family, and liberty' by working in a concerted campaign to undermine reproductive and LGBTQI+ rights around the world. An investigation by The Bureau of Investigative Journalism shows how the network mixed digital campaigns, political lobbying and protests on the ground to fight against reproductive and LGBTQI+ rights in Kenya and Ghana. It claimed victory when legislation to extend access to abortion in Kenya was blocked, and played a key role in pushing

us' has not arisen out of any negotiations or discussions at any United Nations forums. It is a document without legitimacy that does not reflect any global agreement and represents the views of its signatories only. Not everything that is termed 'Geneva' advances human rights, and Geneva Consensus Declaration is one such example. It actually supports anti-rights movement in the garb of 'protection of family values' which a lot of us in Africa value so much. So, they have found perfect ways to advance their rhetoric under the pretext of protecting the family. Geneva Consensus Declaration does not recognise the

Uproar in BJP after announcement of names of Mandal presidents

Vindhya Notes
Dr. Ravi Tiwari

After completing two decades in power, the ambition that has reached its peak among the workers of the ruling party is now becoming a noose around the neck of the leaders. In the BJP, which runs on the scale of discipline, the opposition to the elections, which was till now limited to agreement and disagreement, has started appearing on the streets. The workers are openly accusing the election officer and the president of bias and opening a front. Mandal presidents were elected as the first link of the BJP organization election and the names of the Mandal presidents were announced with mutual agreement and consultation of senior leaders. Clouds of discontent have burst at many places and there is an uproar in the party. A situation of controversy prevails in the entire Vindhya. Nothing is going well inside the party. Many Mandals

in Rewa and Singrauli are still on hold and the elections of four Mandals have also been cancelled. There is protest everywhere, the name on which the MLA gave consent was removed and another name was announced. The discontent of the Mandal workers came out in the open, the workers raised slogans in front of the party office and this discontent is not going to stop. There is a possibility of upheaval in many Mandals. This will also affect the election of the president in the coming days.

Everyone wants bribe
Bribesers are ruling the Vindhya region at this time, whether it is a government scheme or any work, they want money in everything, no work is done without money. Whether it is the Revenue Maha Abhiyan or the Chief Minister Jan Lok Kalyan Abhiyan or the officers visit village to village, the common man is not going to get relief from any campaign. One has to pay for the work. Whether it is Babuji or Saheb, everyone wants money. There is

a web of corruption from top to bottom. The Lokayukta is tightening its grip on the bribes. Within the last four days, rapid action was taken from Maihar to Singrauli. From Patwari Saheb to Naib Tehsildar, everyone was caught and found red handed taking bribe. Even the Lokayukta does not have time to breathe, action has to be taken every other day, still the bribe-takers are not stopping. RSS issued a clarification letter

A guest faculty posted in a college in Sidhi district was beaten up by some people. After which it was alleged that he was beaten up for not joining the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. A teacher posted in the same college was accused of forcibly making students join the Sangh. After the name of the Sangh came up, there was a lot of criticism and the state Sanghchalak issued a clarification letter saying that the teacher who has been accused is not a volunteer of the Sangh and has not participated in any program of the Sangh, he has nothing to do

with the Sangh. This is an attempt to defame the Sangh. Congressmen did not gather to burn the effigy

Politics is heated across the country at this time regarding the constitution maker Dr. Ambedkar. Congress has got a readymade issue, protests and statements are going on everywhere. Actually, there is a ruckus after the comment made by the Union Home Minister on Dr. Ambedkar. In Rewa city, Congress and Youth Congress together burnt the effigy of the Union Minister. There were only a few workers and Congressmen could not gather. Whereas Congressmen had to show their strength. The list of claimants for the ticket is so long that the paper falls short and when it comes to protest, not even ten Congressmen come out on the road. Anyway, this is the story of Congress. Here the condition of the organization and the opposition is weak. Instead of the road, Congressmen in Rewa believe more in traveling in closed vehicles and issuing statements.

Legal Issues

Justice Delayed is Justice Denied



can cause financial losses to individuals.

Mental stress while awaiting justice

Mental stress: Individuals facing legal proceedings experience mental stress while awaiting justice. Contribution of All India Consumer Education Society and author / Nitin Saxena The All India Consumer Education Society (AICES) and its author / President, Nitin Saxena, have consistently raised their voice on the issue of delays in justice. Author / Nitin Saxena believes that judgments delivered by the judiciary should be delivered promptly. He believes that if there is a delay in justice, it should be assumed that the common man is not getting justice. AICES has undertaken several initiatives to raise awareness about the issue of delays in justice and to improve the judiciary. The organization has also made several suggestions to the government for judicial reforms. Conclusion Delay in justice is a serious problem that needs to be addressed.

by Nitin Saxena
"Justice delayed is justice denied" - This adage has been a challenge for judicial systems for centuries. The primary objective of the judiciary is to ensure justice, but when justice is excessively delayed, the result is its denial.

Author who is a noted activist & also President of All India Consumer Education Society and helping poor consumers from the clutches of notorious builders and bad companies by filing their cases before Commission so that they can get justice with compensation. According to author, there can be several reasons for delays in justice, including: Pendency of cases: A large number of pending cases in courts leads to delays in the disposal of cases.

Another major reason is shortage of personnel: Shortage of judges and other judicial officers also leads to the pendency of cases. Complex legal issues: Cases with complex legal issues take longer to resolve. Difficulty in witness availability: Difficulty in witness availability of witnesses also leads to the pendency of cases.

Complexity in legal procedures: Complexity in legal procedures also leads to the pendency of cases. Consequences of Delay in Justice: There are several consequences of delays in justice, including: Erosion of trust in justice: Delays in justice erode public trust in the judiciary. Social unrest: Delays in justice can lead to increased social unrest. Financial loss: Delays in justice

Science Fact

How giant 'water batteries' could make green power reliable

The machines that turn Tennessee's Raccoon Mountain into one of the world's largest energy storage devices—in effect, a battery that can power a medium-size city—are hidden in a cathedral-size cavern deep inside the mountain. But what enables the mountain to store all that energy is plain in an aerial photo. The summit plateau is occupied by a large lake that hangs high above the Tennessee River, so close it looks like it might fall in.



Almost half a century ago, the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), the region's federally owned electric utility, built the lake and blasted out the cavern as well as a 329-meter-tall shaft that links the two. "It was quite an effort to drill down into this mountain, because of the amount of rock that's here," senior manager Holli Hess says dryly. The cavern holds a candy-colored powerhouse, filled with cherry-red electrical ducts and vents and beams in a pale grape. Four giant cylinders, painted bright green and yellow, are the key machines: Each one houses a turbine that becomes a pump when it spins the other way, and a generator that is also an electric motor.

At night, when demand for electricity is low but TVA's nuclear reactors are still humming, TVA banks the excess, storing it as gravitational potential energy in the summit lake.

Spiritual

Interfaith Meets And Spirituality Of Science

One of the most famous scientific conversations consists of a two-line exchange between Albert Einstein and Niels Bohr. Averse to the randomness of quantum mechanics, Einstein brushed it aside with a dismissive, "God doesn't play dice with the universe." To which his friend and colleague, Bohr, replied, "Please stop telling God what to do."



That two of the greatest scientists should cite God as an arbiter in a scientific dispute shouldn't cause any surprise to those who see no innate contradiction between the spirit of religion and that of science. Indeed, far from being in an adversarial relationship the two chime elegantly together in perfect harmony. Both represent a common search for knowledge about the origin and nature of the cosmos, and our relationship with it.

Why then is it that they are often seen to be loggerheads with each other, as in the case of the ongoing battle between Darwinian Evolutionists on the side of science and Creationists on that of religion? The answer lies in the concept of dogma, an article of faith that is beyond any doubt or debate. In the predawn of history our forebears interpreted natural phenomena, the rising and setting of the sun, the waxing and waning of the moon, solar and lunar eclipses, by attributing them to supernatural entities, which had to be propitiated by worshipful ritual and the offering of sacrifices. Such animistic rites helped humans to be in consonance with nature. These practices, and the mythologies which gave birth to them, were a metaphor for the universe, a form of poetry before the invention of the written word. Such metaphoric interpretations, were a reflection of reality devised to help consciousness focus better on what was being reflected, but over time through repetitive tradition, the reflection came to be seen as the reality itself, the mirror was mistaken for the light, which does not generate, but only transmits.

Letter to the Editor

Shyam Benegal, the force behind India's parallel cinema movement, dies at 90

Sir, Veteran filmmaker Shyam Benegal, known for his remarkable contributions (almost parallel to all time great filmmaker Satyajit Ray) to Indian cinema, passed away at the age of 90 on December 23 in Mumbai. What to say about Benegal, it's like showing light to a sun. A tireless, simply outstanding, not influenced by a glamour, name and fame, but on his sheer hard work and sensitivity he chose to work upon and worked like no-one else will be able to cope with times to come. I'm sure like many others, the new generation learned more about Bharat as a child growing up in India from "Bharat Ek Khoj" than the history books. Compelling, impactful, exceptional work By Shyam Benegal, a master craftsman of his trade.

Known for his realism and depth, his acclaimed works include Ankur (1973), Nishant (1975), Manthan (1976), Bhumika (1977), Mammo (1994), Sardari Begum and Zubeidaa. With 18 national awards, he was renowned for his realistic storytelling and insightful social commentary, which set his work apart from mainstream cinema. Benegal was recognised by the Government of India with the Padma Shri in 1976 and the Padma Bhushan in 1991 for his contributions to Indian cinema. I wish Shyam Benegal is given the Dada Saheb Phalke award posthumously. No doubt, he was a pioneer of art movies at a time when mediocre, stereotypical films were being made. His excellence in storytelling on celluloid is beyond comparison, he was decades ahead of others, parallel cinema inspired this generation on risk taking and coming up with unique ideas. Benegal will be missed by the entire film industry. May God Bless the great son of India with Peace and Bliss. May God give strength to his family members at this difficult time. India can never fill the vacuum he has left in the world of Cinema. Om Shanti.

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee

Tech

Elon Musk denies funding talks for his AI firm xAI amid speculation

Entrepreneur Elon Musk clarified on Friday that his artificial intelligence venture, xAI, is not engaged in discussions with investors to secure funding, countering earlier reports suggesting otherwise.

In a statement shared on the platform X, Musk refuted claims of capital-raising activities, stating, "xAI is not raising capital and I have had no conversations with anyone in this regard." The clarification comes in response to a report by the Financial Times which indicated that xAI was exploring fundraising opportunities with a target of up to \$6 billion, valuing the startup at \$20 billion. According to sources cited in the FT report, xAI has been in discussions with family offices in Hong Kong and is eyeing investments from sovereign wealth funds in the Middle East.

The AI landscape has witnessed escalating competition, with investors increasingly backing startups poised to leverage advancements in artificial intelligence, a sector that has gripped the attention of Silicon Valley in recent times. This is not the first time Musk has found himself addressing speculation surrounding xAI's financial endeavours. Just last week, he refuted claims that the company had secured \$500 million in commitments from investors towards a \$1 billion funding target. Musk's commitment to advancing AI safety is well-documented. While he co-founded OpenAI in 2015, he stepped down from its board in 2018. Last year, xAI made headlines with the launch of "Grok," a chatbot platform positioned as a competitor to OpenAI's ChatGPT.



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