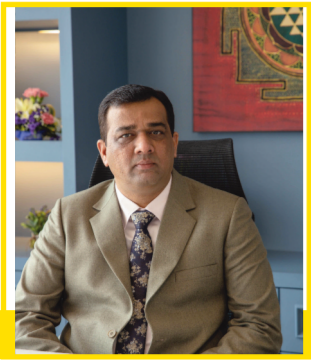


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Celebrating Democracy: India Gears Up for General Elections 2024



Preparation for the Grand Festival

As India braces itself for the General Elections 2024, meticulous preparations spanning two years have laid the groundwork for the world's largest celebration of democracy. Led by the Election Commission of India, this monumental event stands as a testament to the nation's commitment to democratic principles.

Phase 1: The

Inaugural Chapter

Phase 1 of the elections, slated to commence on 19th marks the beginning of a transformative journey for the nation. With 102 Lok Sabha seats and 92 Assembly Constituencies across 21 States/UTs in focus, millions of voters prepare to exercise their constitutional rights.

Ensuring Integrity: Measures for Fairness and Peace

To safeguard the sanctity of the electoral process, the Election Commission has implemented a range of mea-

asures. From the deployment of central forces to the utilization of webcasting technology, every effort is made to uphold the principles of fairness and peace.

Empowering Every Voter

Special provisions have been made to ensure that every citizen can participate in the electoral process with ease and dignity. From optional home voting for elderly and Persons with Disabilities (PwD) voters to model polling stations managed by women and PwDs, inclusivity remains paramount.

Combating Misinformation: Upholding

Transparency

In the age of information, the Commission remains vigilant against misinformation and false narratives.

By providing comprehensive details about contesting candidates and clarifying doubts through dedicated platforms, transparency is upheld at every step.

Media Coverage and Voter Turnout

The Commission facilitates extensive media coverage and real-time monitoring of voter turnout, ensuring transparency and accountability. With dedicated channels for information dissemination, the democratic process remains accessible to all.

Upholding Democratic Ideals

As India embarks on this historic electoral journey, the Election Commission stands as a guardian of democratic ideals. Through relentless dedication and unwavering commitment, the nation reaffirms its faith in the democratic principles enshrined in its constitution. With the collective participation of citizens, India sets sail on a voyage of democracy, guided by the principles of fairness, inclusivity, and transparency. As the nation prepares to write yet another chapter in its democratic narrative, the spirit of democracy burns bright, illuminating the path towards a brighter future.

- Dr. Munesh Arora

The 134th Dr. Ambedkar Jayanti celebration

The 134th Dr. Ambedkar Jayanti was celebrated on April 14, 2024, by the Dr. Ambedkar Foundation (DAF) at the Parliament House Lawns in New Delhi. The event commenced with dignitaries including the President, Vice President, and Prime Minister of India, paying floral tributes to the statue of Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. This annual celebration, organized by DAF on behalf of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, honors the birth anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar, a visionary social reformer, jurist, and politician, renowned for his pivotal role in drafting the Indian Constitution and advocating for marginalized communities.

The public was welcomed to pay respects at Dr. Ambedkar's statue, and a stall was set up by DAF to assist attendees with their belongings.

The event featured Buddhist chants by 25 monks and performances by artists dedicated to Babasaheb Dr. Ambedkar. Thousands of individuals attended, including senior officials such as Secretary Shri Saurabh Garg and Member Secretary Dr. Prabhat Kumar Singh.

Established in 1992 under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, the Dr. Ambedkar Foundation aims to disseminate the ideologies of Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar nationwide. The

foundation also operates the Dr. Ambedkar National Memorial (DANM) museum, preserving and showcasing Dr. Ambedkar's life, work, and contributions through personal belongings, photographs, documents, and audio-visual exhibits. On April 14, 2024, by the Dr. Ambedkar Foundation (DAF) at the Parliament House Lawns in New Delhi.

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Professor Amarika Singh Engages in Civil Conversation with Dr. D.K. Ojha

In a recent dialogue session, Professor Amarika Singh, former Vice-Chancellor of Mohanlal Sukhadia University and advisory board member of NIMS University, had a cordial exchange with Dr. D.K. Ojha, the Director of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India.

During the meeting, both dignitaries discussed the potential of petroleum engineering in Rajasthan and deliberated on the employment opportunities for students in this field. Professor Singh presented Dr. Ojha with a copy of the book "One Nation One NIMS" and briefed him about various academic projects conducted by NIMS University. The conversation also touched upon the extensive research and employment prospects in petroleum engineering in Rajasthan.

Professor Singh emphasized NIMS University's role in providing golden opportunities for students to pursue careers in petroleum engineering through various national and international exchange programs with leading universities worldwide. The institution is not only contributing to the development of the region but also fulfilling the national demand for skilled youth in the petroleum sector.

Dr. D.K. Ojha highlighted the rapid development of the petroleum engineering sector, which offers promising career growth for young professionals. He stressed the increasing demand for petroleum engineers globally, making it a popular field among the youth. With advancements in technology, petroleum engineering has become highly relevant, especially in exploration and production processes.

India ranks third globally in gas and oil consumption, and the demand for these resources is expected to rise in the coming years. To meet this growing demand, there is a significant need for petroleum engineers in India. The discussion concluded with optimism about the future of petroleum engineering and its vital role in the country's energy sector.

Acharya Lokesh Muni Honored with American Presidential Award

New Delhi: The founder of Ahimsa Vishwa Bharati and the World Peace Center, Jain Acharya Lokesh Muni, was honored with the American Presidential Award at Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. He is the first Indian monk to receive this prestigious accolade. The award was presented to him by Congressman Brad Sherman on behalf of President Biden. Acharya Lokesh Muni was bestowed with the Presidential Award, Golden Shield, Certificate of Honor, and a commendation letter bearing President Biden's signature. This recognition was conferred upon him in commemoration of the 2550th anniversary of Lord Mahavir's attainment of Nirvana, in acknowledgment of his remarkable services.

Present at the occasion was a delegation representing the Indian community, led by former Water Commissioner Ashok Bhatt from California. The delegation extended their congratulations to Acharya Lokesh Muni.

President Biden's Praise - President Biden, commending Acharya Lokesh Muni's global peace efforts, stated in a citation, "By dedicating your time to finding solutions to the challenges ahead of us, you are helping us more than ever. We are living in a moment that requires hope, light, and love, and through your service, you are providing all three of these hopes." Congressman Brad Sherman read out the citation on behalf of the American President during the ceremony.

Award Increases Responsibility - Expressing gratitude to President Biden after receiving the award, Acharya Lokesh Muni expressed hope for continued collaboration between India and America for the upliftment of humanity. He stated that this award has further increased his responsibility.

HZL : Sakhi Program Uthori Campaign Impact



Hindustan Zinc's Sakhi Project recently concluded its impactful Uthori Campaign, spanning over a month and a half, aimed at addressing pressing societal issues and sensitizing rural communities. The campaign, conducted across operational areas including Agucha, Chanderiya, Dariba, Debari, Kayad, Pantnagar, and Zawar, successfully reached and engaged more than 90,000 individuals.

Through various channels such as village drives, group discussions, rallies, and school sessions, the Uthori Campaign effectively raised awareness on critical issues like Domestic Violence, Child Marriage, Female Foeticide,

Unequal Education Opportunities, and Child Sexual Abuse. A significant aspect of the initiative was the formation of a dedicated group of 'Gender Sakhis', comprising women trained to educate their peers and the wider community on these vital matters.

One of the campaign's highlights was the training and sessions on Safe and Unsafe Touch conducted by Gender Sakhis in numerous schools within operational areas. Additionally, an enlightening session on Inclusion in Sports showcased the transformative role of sports in promoting inclusivity and equal opportunities. Innovating within the Uthori segment, a five-day Residential Theatre Workshop, supported by Katha Manch, Delhi, empowered thirty Sakhi women with theatrical mediums to address social issues.

These women showcased their talent and advocacy at Sakhi Utsav events, amplifying awareness on a larger platform. The Sakhi Project, initiated by Hindustan Zinc, aims to bring socio-economic empowerment among rural and tribal women by mobilizing them into Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and providing vocational training or entrepreneurship opportunities. Currently benefiting around 27,000+ women, the program serves as a beacon of hope for both the women involved and the communities they reside in.

GITS's Contributions to Technical Development



GITS has been at the forefront of fostering technical innovation in the country, with students consistently achieving recognition in various hackathons. Notable accomplishments include the establishment of the MSME Business Innovation Center and active participation in national-level hackathons.

Promoting Scientific Awareness: Financial Controller B.L. Jangid highlights the significance of scientific knowledge and acknowledges the invaluable contributions of scientists to society. He expresses hope that the exhibition will ignite a fervent interest in plasma among students, paving the way for their future pursuits in the field. The Plasma Exhibition at GITS represents an exciting opportunity to delve into the fascinating world of plasma and its transformative potential. With engaging displays, expert insights, and specialized training sessions, the event promises to inspire and empower the next generation of scientists and innovators.

Educating the Masses:

The exhibition endeavors to educate students and educators from various schools in Rajasthan about the diverse facets of plasma and its wide-ranging applications. Attendees will have the opportunity to explore the latest breakthroughs in plasma technology, which are driving innovation across sectors such as technology and healthcare.

Empowering Educators:

As part of the exhibition, a specialized four-hour plasma training session is scheduled for science teachers. This session aims to equip educators with the knowledge and tools to effectively incorporate plasma concepts into their school curriculum, thereby enriching the learning experience of their students.

Expert Insights:

The event will feature participation from experts of the Institute of Plasma Research's Outer Division, including Dr. A.V. Ravikumar and Scientific Officer Chetan Jharivala. These esteemed professionals will shed light on the diverse applications of plasma, showcasing its immense potential for societal advancement.

Exploring the Marvels of Plasma: A Five-Day Exhibition at GITS, Udaipur

- Shabnam Bano

The Geetanjali Institute of Technical Studies (GITS) in collaboration with the Institute of Plasma Research is hosting a captivating Plasma Exhibition from April 15 to April 19, 2024, at the GITS campus in Udaipur, Rajasthan. This event aims to inspire a passion for science among young minds and acquaint them with the transformative potential of plasma-based technologies.

Fostering Scientific Advancements:

Dr. N.S. Rathore, Director of GITS, underscores the critical role of scientific progress in a nation's development. He emphasizes the importance of nurturing research-oriented environments among the youth and providing adequate resources for research and development at the higher education level.