

**Dharmendra Pradhan holds bilateral meeting with Dr. Bonginkosi Emmanuel "Blade" NZIMANDE, Minister of Higher Education, Science & Innovation, Republic of South Africa in Bali, Indonesia**

Chennai, Sep 01 2022: Union Education and Skill Development Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan held a bilateral meeting with HE Dr. Bonginkosi Emmanuel "Blade" NZIMANDE, Minister of Higher Education, Science & Innovation, Republic of South Africa, in Bali, Indonesia, today.

The Ministers had fruitful discussions on strengthening the academic & skill development partnerships

and bilateral education cooperation.

The Ministers agreed to develop institutional mechanisms for tie-ups between HEIs & skill institutions, mutual recognition of skill qualifications & capacity building in skill development.

They also decided to set up a Joint Working Group on Education between two countries to further extend the cooperation that already exists and also to

realise the full potential of bilateral cooperation in education.

Shri Pradhan said that the Introduction of NEP has paved the way for the internationalisation of Indian education.

Shri Pradhan added that India and South Africa relations are close and friendly and is rooted in shared values and interests.

Shri Pradhan thanked HE Dr NZIMANDE for his keenness to deepen our



engagements in education & skill development and for his support to India's presidency in furthering

the G20 EdWG agenda.

Shri Pradhan also visited the Gusti Bagus Sugriwa University in Bali,

Indonesia. Minister Pradhan said that the University is a reflection of the pluralistic ethos of Indonesia and a celebration of common roots, identity and deep cultural connect between Indonesia and India.

He explored opportunities for institutional linkages with HEIs in India and academic collaboration in the field of Sanskrit language, Philosophy, Ayurveda and Yoga.

He also said that strong academic collaborations and student exchange between Sugriwa University & Indian HEIs will pave the way for broadening the understanding of Hinduism and the shared spiritual, cultural & economic ties.

Shri Dharmendra Pradhan also visited the International Institute of Tourism and Business (Institute Pariwisata dan Bisnis Internasional) in

Bali. He had an overview of the training facilities, skilling programs, credit frameworks, pathways to student mobility and future plans among others.

He said that collaborations in skilling will encourage entrepreneurship, help build capacities in emerging areas of travel, tourism, hospitality & business and boost people-to-people linkages.

**Science & Technology Ministers of all 28 States, Administrators of 8 UTs and CEOs of over 100 Start Ups and industries are expected to take part in the two-day Science Conclave: Dr Jitendra Singh**

Chennai, Sep 01 2022: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the 2-day Science Conclave of the Science & Technology (S&T) Ministers from all the States and Union Territories (UTs) at Science City, Ahmedabad on 10th September, 2022.

Announcing this here today after a high-level official meeting, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said that the Conference this time is being given a different format with focus on new

technologies relevant to each of the different States/UTs and their optimum application for "ease of living". The meet will also help break silos between the Centre and the States, while strengthening Science Technology & Innovation (STI) ecosystem through greater synergy across the country, he said.

Science & Technology Ministers of all 28 States, Administrators of 8 UTs, key officials from States – Chief Secretaries, Principal Secretaries in-charge of S&T in the states and all Science Secretaries to Government of India e.g., DST, DBT, DSIR, MoES, DAE, DoS, ICMR, ICAR, Jal Shakti, MoEF & CC, MNRE and CEOs of over

100 Start Ups and industries are expected to take part in the two-day Science Conclave.

Dr Jitendra Singh informed that the two-day Science and Technology Conclave will have a new dimension as several action-oriented decisions will be taken and all States and UTs will be asked to have individual STI policy on the lines of National STI policy. The Minister said, in the true spirit of cooperative federalism, the Centre will assist States in formulating their State STI policies. He said, Centre will also work jointly with States to address their Specific STI needs, challenges and gap areas and evolve solutions.

Dr Jitendra Singh said



that there is a need for States to be proactive in aligning their policies towards the larger goal of strengthening Centre-State coordination and collaboration mechanism to strengthen STI ecosystem in the States by promoting R & D, innovation and entrepreneurship. He said, States must be able to explore solutions to their local problems through S&T interventions and

promised all help by the Centre in exploring such solutions by connecting them to knowledge institutions and experts. The Minister pointed out that some of the States and UTs have weak S&T base and institutional strength and therefore they must connect their institutions with central government R&D and academic institutions.

Dr Jitendra Singh shared with the participants

that almost every State has S&T Council but only few are working proactively and therefore the need was felt to enhance STI engagements with States beyond S&T Council level. He said, mapping of STI Ecosystem has four broad indicators like knowledge produced within the system, diffusion of the produced knowledge within the system, interactions/linkages between the knowledge producers and knowledge diffusers and identifications of needs/priorities and challenges/weaknesses of the system. The Minister informed that the DST made an attempt to develop a 'System Framework' for mapping the STI ecosystem

of the States.

Dwelling on the broad agenda of the Conclave, Dr Jitendra Singh said, it will aim at fostering proactive engagements between Centre and States in S&T, creating a mechanism to facilitate the flow of STI information and data between Centre and States, Capacity Building of Scientists, technologists and professionals from States in key technology areas. He said, Centre and States will work together to promote Private sector participation in the State R&D and will try to put in position a robust and long term "Centre-State coordination and monitoring Mechanism in STI at the highest level.

The meeting was

attended by Member NITI Aayog, Dr. V.K.Saraswat, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India Prof Ajay Sood, Secretary, Department Science & Technology, Dr S. Chandrasekhar, Secretary D/o Space, S. Somanath, Secretary, Earth Sciences, Dr M. Ravichandran, Secretary, Department of Biotechnology, Dr Rajesh Gokhale, Secretary, Capacity Building Commission, Hemang Jani and representatives from Ministries of Health and Family Welfare, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Jal Shakti, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and MNRE and senior officials joined the review meeting.

**C-DOT and NDMA organise All India Workshop on CAP based Integrated Alert System- SACHET to train state Governments to mitigate effects of disasters**

Chennai, Sep 01 2022: Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), the premier R&D centre of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications, Government of India and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Government of India jointly conducted an All-India Workshop centered on Common Alerting Protocol (CAP) based Integrated Alert System today here today.

The workshop aimed to provide a platform to all the stake holders including Alert Generating Agencies, Alert Authorising Agencies and Alert Disseminating Agencies across India to discuss their underlying concerns and challenges and evolve the technology-based solutions to address these in an effective manner amid insightful discussions by a galaxy of experts and technologists.

The Inaugural Session was chaired by Shri K Rajaraman, Chairman, Digital Communications Commission (DCC) and Secretary (Telecom), DOT. He exhorted that all forms of technology should be used collaboratively and appreciated the indigenous initiatives of C-DOT and NDMA in operationalising the Integrated Alert System. He said that saving lives is the fundamental responsibility of the Government and the country has marched very well in this direction. Substantial investment has been done in the recent years in telecom sector and all corners are connected now, so there should not be any remote area without alert mechanism. He emphasised the need of cell broadcast in the current network as well as the upcoming 5G NSA solutions.

Smt. B. V. Umadevi, Additional Secretary (DM), Ministry of Home

Affairs (MHA), Government of India said that bringing all stakeholders in one platform will be very important in bringing synergy of efforts. She congratulated C-DOT on successfully completing the Phase-I of the CAP project.

Dr. Rajkumar Upadhyay, Executive Director, C-DOT said that CAP based Integrated Alert System has been implemented as per ITU Standards and it is in sync with Hon'ble Prime Ministers 10-point agenda. Dr. Upadhyay said that with the implementation, India has become 6th such country to have nation-wide alert system. He emphasised the myriad capabilities of the indigenous Integrated System driven by synergy amongst relevant stakeholders and discussed the future roadmap.

Sh. Kamal Kishore, Member Secretary, NDMA said that disasters give no lead



time and events are highly localized so warning should be location specific, timely, efficient, actionable, and people-centric.

States like AP, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka appreciated CAP and said that they have been using this to disseminate alerts at the time of crises and it has helped us save lives and take timely action.

Various eminent dignitaries and speakers from various Government departments including NDMA, DoT, Indian Railways, Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), Central Water Commission (CWC), Indian National Centre

for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Defence Geoinformatics Research Establishment (DGRE), Forest Survey of India (FSI), Indian

Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) of 36 States and Union Territories attended the workshop and deliberated on various contemporary issues related to Disaster Management and Preparedness.

NDMA's Integrated Public Alert System has been developed by C-DOT and provides a

converged platform for dissemination of targeted alerts and advisories to people living in disaster-prone areas in vernacular languages over all a v a i l a b l e communication media including SMS, Cell Broadcast, Radio, TV, Siren, Social Media, Web Portals and Mobile Applications. This one-stop solution is a concrete step towards realizing Hon'ble Prime Minister's 10 point

Agenda for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The system is already operational in 34 States and UTs. More than 75 Crores SMSes have already been sent by the system for various disasters like Cyclones (Asani, Yass, Nivar, Amphan), Floods (Assam, Gujarat), Lightning (Bihar), etc. The system has also been used to facilitate the pilgrims during Amarnath Ji Yatra.

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## Bayer to scale up its 'Sahbhaagi' program to build an evolving ecosystem for micro-entrepreneurs while transforming Indian agriculture

Chennai, Sep 01 2022: Bayer, a global enterprise with core competencies in the life science fields of healthcare and agriculture, announced its plan to scale up its Sahbhaagi program to empower rural women and youth with an aim to develop a comprehensive agricultural ecosystem. The 'Bayer Sahbhaagi Program' was launched in 2019 and today the program has more than 4000 Sahbhaagis across India. This initiative creates unique opportunities for rural entrepreneurs to partner with Bayer, explore alternate demand generation routes and enhance Bayer's reach to farmers.

Sahbhaagi is a rural micro-entrepreneurship development model which empowers farmers, women and rural youth to become an advisor and recommend right solutions to smallholder growers. The scale-up of the Sahbhaagi program will include adding more Sahbhaagi



partners to create a strong network of outreach and engagement with farmers across India, and anyone above the age of 18 with knowledge of agriculture and access to a smartphone is eligible to become a Sahbhaagi. In addition to enrolling young Agri-entrepreneurs, Bayer understands the major role women play in shaping their families and the agriculture value chain. Their role as influencers in buying decisions makes them the perfect partners to scale up the program.

The program will be further fueled by the adoption of smartphones and evolving digital technologies that have created new touchpoints

with farmers. The Sahbhaagis have been trained and equipped to recommend the right solutions to smallholder farmers as per local farm conditions. The smallholder growers get access to Bayer products digitally with the assistance of the Sahbhaagi. This program is currently active in 24 states, across more than 470 districts and 1980 sub-districts.

Speaking about the program, Simon-Thorsten Wiebusch, Country Divisional Head - Crop Science Division of Bayer for India, Bangladesh & Sri Lanka said, "In our broad effort to transform agricultural practices for the benefit of local communities, we

aim to provide opportunities to micro-entrepreneurs to encourage sustainable and responsible farming and support rural productivity. Bayer will continue to work closely with these Sahbhaagis to create a sustainable ecosystem in their villages, adopting the latest agricultural and farming practices, learning the technical know-how of Bayer products and offering customized crop and product advisory to farmers."

Bayer has also set up a toll-free number 18001204049 to provide more details to the rural population and facilitate enrollment in the Sahbhaagi program.

## Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital inaugurates State-of-the-art eye care hospital at Chromepet Actor RJ Balaji donates his eyes to mark the occasion The free consultation will be available till September 30

Chennai, Sep 01 2022: Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital, the globally renowned pioneers in eyecare since 1957, has opened a state-of-the-art eyecare hospital at Chromepet in Chennai. Actor RJ Balaji, was the Chief Guest at the inaugural event, supported the noble cause of eye donation. Mr. I. Karunanithi, MLA of Pallavaram, Mr. Joseph Annadurai, Chairman, Pallavaram Zone, Dr. Srinivasan G Rao, Senior Ophthalmologist & Regional Head - Clinical Services, Dr. Agarwal's Group of Eye Hospitals and Dr. S. Venkatesh, Head - Clinic Services, Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital, Chromepet were also present on the occasion.

Chromepet facility is spread across 9000 sq. feet and located at No 201, 1st Floor, GST Road, behind Chromepet Bus Stop. To mark the inauguration, Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital announced that the free eye consultation will be available till September 30, 2022 at Chromepet facility.

On the occasion Actor RJ Balaji said, "It gives me immense pleasure to inaugurate the new facility



of Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital at Chromepet and to donate my eyes. The eyes are your body's most highly developed sensory organs. But many people lose their opportunity to see this beautiful world because they are blind. However, it is possible to bring back their sight by donating our eyes after death. I will encourage each one to pledge their eyes as well which will help in creating a positive change in someone's life.

Dr. Srinivasan G Rao, Senior Ophthalmologist & Regional Head - Clinical Services, Dr. Agarwal's Group of Eye Hospitals said, "It is with great pride that we have opened our state-of-the-art hospital in Chromepet. Currently we have 18 centers in Chennai. With the inauguration of this

center, Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospitals now has a total network presence of 119 hospitals spread across India and Africa. We are committed to expand our network and operations to better meet the growing demands of eye care. Our plan is to take the number of hospitals in the network to 150 by 2022-23."

"The national eye donation fortnight is being observed from August 25 to September 8 to spread awareness about donation and motivate people to pledge their eyes after death. One-third of the world's visually challenged population is from India accounting for 12 million individuals with visual impairment. Corneal diseases are the major causes of blindness after

cataracts and glaucoma. Lack of awareness prevents people from donating their eyes. Any person can pledge their eye which can be donated after their death irrespective of gender, age or blood group." added Dr. Srinivasan G Rao.

Dr. S. Venkatesh, Head - Clinic Services, Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital - Chromepet said, "The new hospital has latest operations facilities such as modular OT, precision cataract, and retina OT to provide best surgical treatments. The hospital also has labs, pharmacy and an optical wing to offer a wide range of frames and lenses of high quality and leading brands. We are well equipped to treat cornea conditions including corneal ulcers, keratitis (inflammation of the cornea) and keratoconus (thinning of the cornea) apart from the allergies. Our retina specialists offer expert evaluation and treatment of vitreoretinal and macular diseases, including macular degeneration, retinitis pigmentosa, retinal detachment, and diabetic retinopathy."

## Anushka Shetty to Kamal Haasan: Actors who would fit perfectly if She-Hulk: Attorney at Law was made in India!

Chennai, Sep 01 2022: Marvel Cinematic Universe has gone green with the premiere of Marvel Studios' She-Hulk: Attorney at Law on Disney+ Hotstar, with new episodes dropping every Thursday in English, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam. Exploring the legacy of the Incredible Hulk in detail for the first time since 2008, the series introduces Emmy Award-winning actress Tatiana Maslany as Jennifer Walters, AKA, She-Hulk. With her specialisation in superhuman-oriented legal cases, Jennifer Walters navigates her new smashing green persona and her role as a lawyer in the series.

But, ever wondered, what would it be like if She-Hulk were an Indian actress? With their desi charm, dramatic dialogues and great comic-timing, Bollywood talent can make up for a perfect Indian version of this Marvel movie. While the film features a powerful cast, including Ginger Gonzaga, Jameela Jamil and Tim Roth, with special appearances by Mark Ruffalo and Benedict Wong, it will be interesting to find out which actors would fit into the shoes of earth's mightiest heroes.

**Anushka Shetty as She-Hulk (Tatiana Maslany)**

Jennifer AKA She-Hulk, leads the complicated life of a single, 30-something who also happens to be a green 6-foot-7-inch superpowered hulk. Telugu star Anushka Shetty is known for picking strong women-centric roles and playing



resilient characters in movies like Baahubali and Singam 3. Anushka Shetty would make for a perfect She-Hulk in her role as the quintessential heroine.

**Prabhas as Hulk (Mark Ruffalo)**

National heartthrob Prabhas has proven his acting prowess with films like the Baahubali franchise, Mirchi and so many others and who

better than he can do the role of Incredible Hulk in the Indian version of She-Hulk She-Hulk: Attorney at Law

**Samantha Prabhu as Titania (Jameela Jamil)**

After carving a niche for herself in the Tamil and Telugu film industries with her acting chops, Samantha Prabhu rose to global popularity for

choosing excellent bold. Samantha can be a perfect fit to play the role of Titania, who is a narcissist and in the delusion that she's the strongest woman in the latest Marvel Studios' series She-Hulk: Attorney at Law

**Kamal Haasan as Blonsky (Tim Roth)**

Veteran Kamal Haasan has long been admired for his acting Prowess across the film industry. From his latest Vikram to classic Chachi 420, Haasan has fascinated many with his ace acting, and for him to do the role of Blonsky, who was injected with a super serum that turned him into this monster, the Abomination, will be another feather in his cap.

**Sai Pallavi as Nikki Ramos (Ginger Gonzaga)**

Nikki Ramos is Jennifer Walters's closest confidante and paralegal, providing unending support and most sage advice in personal and professional matters. Jen can always rely on her fun, sarcastic and always fashion-forward friend who's not afraid to colour outside the lines. Dancer and actor Sai Pallavi is no different. She has carved a niche in Mollywood and Tollywood by taking up diverse and challenging roles. She's also known for being a style statement in the industry, and Sai would perfectly fit into the role of a friend in the Indi-version of the Marvel series.

~ Tune into Disney+ Hotstar to watch Marvel Studios' She-Hulk: Attorney in English, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu and Malayalam~

## Fortis Hospital Vadapalani organizes Heart Health Check-up Camp in association with Chennai Corporation at Zone 11, Valasaravakkam to create awareness on heart related ailments

Chennai, Sep 01 2022: Fortis Hospital, Vadapalani in association with Chennai Corporation Zone 11, Valasaravakkam, Chennai. The camp was inaugurated by Thiru Ganapathi, MLA, Maduravoyal. Other senior dignitaries present on the occasion were Thiru V Rajan, Chairman, Valasaravakkam & Nolambur Corporate Zone 11, Mrs. Dhanalakshmi, Medical Officer, Cinna Porur and Mr. Boobesh AHO in the presence of senior dignitaries from Fortis Vadapalani. More than 170 people benefited from the health camp.

This objective behind organizing the camp was to create awareness on heart health amongst



people. Post-Covid there has been a significant upsurge in cardiac deaths at young age due to poor lifestyle mostly owing to improper diet, lifestyle choices such as alcohol consumption, smoking, sedentary lifestyle etc. This camp encouraged general public and Chennai Corporation workers to undergo blood pressure, random blood sugar, BMI check and ECG along with a doctor consultation. All camp

visitors were provided with Free Sanitizers, Face Masks along with a free Doctor Consultation Coupon for further follow-ups at the Fortis Vadapalani.

Mr. Venkat Phanidhar Nelluri, Zonal Director, Fortis Hospitals, Vadapalani said, "It is shocking to see the deaths associated with cardiac ailments in famous young personalities. Although a person might externally appear healthy, it is

imperative to undergo preventive heart health check-ups at frequent intervals after the age of 30 years. As a part of our ongoing social welfare initiative, Fortis Vadapalani has initiated the heart health camp to create awareness and encourage preventive heart health checkups."

For enquiry on more such camps, people can contact Fortis Hospital, Vadapalani on 98840 02086/9677063130.

## AFCOM BETS BIG ON ASEAN REGION Takes delivery of its first Boeing 737 Freighter Aircraft Plans to add two more Aircrafts to its fleet by year end

Chennai, Sep 01 2022: Afcom Holdings Private Limited, a professionally managed international cargo airline headquartered in Chennai, today reiterated its commitment to the ASEAN region by taking delivery of its first Aircraft - Boeing 737 Freighter. Afcom has been operational since September 2021 through its strategic alliance with its commercial carrier Partners.

The addition of this Aircraft will support Afcom's current capacity with its airfreight partners, thus enabling a faster and more reliable delivery service. The company plans to add two more Freighter Aircraft to its fleet by the end of this year.

Commenting on the developments, Deepak Parasuraman, Chairman, Afcom Holdings Private Limited said, "Afcom is committed to provide efficient, secure, and

quality services to our customers. We strongly believe in working closely with our customers by providing them Tailor-made logistic solutions. We see ourselves not just as a cargo airline but an end-to-end cargo solutions provider. Air cargo is today a key enabler of flexibility and speed in global supply chains. We foresee good and rising demand for air cargo going forward, and we are fully geared up to infuse the required

capacity in the market."

Afcom presently serves between India, Singapore, Indonesia, and Brunei. In addition, it will commence services to Hanoi (Vietnam) and Bangkok (Thailand) sectors in its endeavour to service destinations across ASEAN countries. More new services are also in the pipeline, with the aim of providing faster delivery options to support the industry requirements.