

PM attends All India Conference of Director Generals/ Inspector Generals of Police

Chennai, Jan 22 2023: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi attended the 57th All-India Conference of Director Generals/ Inspector Generals of Police on 21st and 22nd January in New Delhi.

Prime Minister suggested making the police forces more sensitive and training them in emerging technologies. He emphasised on the importance of National Data Governance Framework for smoothening of data exchange across agencies. Prime

Minister suggested that while we should further leverage technological solutions like biometrics etc., there is also a need to further strengthen traditional policing mechanisms like foot patrols etc. He recommended repealing obsolete criminal laws and building standards for police organisations across states. He suggested prison reforms to improve jail management. He also discussed strengthening of border as well as coastal security by organising frequent visits of officials.



Prime Minister emphasised on enhanced cooperation between state police and central agencies to leverage capabilities and share best practices. He suggested replicating the model of the DGSP / IGsP Conference at the state/district levels for discussing emerging challenges and evolving best practices among their teams.

The Conference was concluded after Prime Minister distributed Police Medals for Distinguished Services.

The Conference

covered various aspects of policing and national security, including Counter Terrorism, Counter Insurgency and Cyber Security. Union Home Minister, Ministers for State for Home, National Security Advisor, Union Home Secretary, DGSP / IGsP of States/UTs and Heads of the Central Police Organisations/Central Armed Police Forces were also present in the Conference. Around 600 more officers of various levels attended the Conference virtually from States/UTs.

Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar visits the International Trade Fair on Millets and Organic Products, in Bengaluru
Prime Minister is very sensitive towards small farmers - Tomar. Farmers will benefit from increase in production, consumption and export of Millets

Chennai, Jan 22 2023: Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar said that the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi is very sensitive towards the small farmers of the country. Shri Modi, with foresight, raised the issue of Millets in the United Nations, where the resolution of the Government of India was adopted with the support of 72 countries and as per the United Nations declaration, the year 2023 is now being celebrated under the leadership of India as the International Year of Millets. Behind this, the

main objective of the government is to increase the production and productivity, processing and exports of millets, which will ultimately help the farmers of the country.

Union Minister Shri Tomar said this in Bengaluru today as the chief guest at the closing ceremony of the International Trade Fair on Millets and Organic Products. Shri Tomar said that Millets crops can be grown in less water. Millets also help in increasing the income of farmers. With the increase in the production and consumption of millets



in the country, its export will also increase, which will benefit a large number of farmers. He lauded the efforts of Karnataka Government to increase the production and

consumption of millets and termed the signing of MoUs worth Rs. 201 crore rupees as an important milestone. He also praised the incentives provided to the farmers of the state.

Shri Tomar said that the Center and the State Governments are running many important schemes for the welfare of the farmers including increasing their income.

Farmers are being given an annual income aid of Rs. 6,000 through the Prime Minister Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-Kisan) Scheme. Besides, farmers in Karnataka are

being given an additional annual income support of Rs. 4,000 each. With the aim of increasing the potential of majority of small farmers, the Prime Minister Shri Modi has initiated setting up of 10,000 new Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) in the country, on which the Government of India is spending Rs. 6,865 crore. He appreciated the enthusiastic contribution in formation of new FPOs across the country as well as in Karnataka. Shri Tomar said that many programmes have been launched by the

Center to make agriculture advanced and the farmers prosperous.

On the occasion, Shri Tomar gave away awards in various categories. The Union Minister of State for Chemicals & Fertilizers and New and Renewable Energy, Shri Bhagwanth Khuba, Agriculture Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Shri Surya Pratap Singh Shahi and state Horticulture Minister Shri Dinesh Pratap Singh, besides Agriculture Minister of Karnataka, Shri B.C. Patil were present at the function.

Delhi's overall AQI notes a sudden dip, strong indications of improvement observed
All actions under Stage-I and Stage-II remain enforced and intensified

Chennai, Jan 22 2023: Delhi's overall air quality suddenly, rapidly and unanticipatedly deteriorated since late last night with the overall Air Quality Index (AQI) clocking 407 today as per the 4PM AQI Bulletin provided by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB),

which is an increase of 113 points from the AQI recorded yesterday (294). Considering this sudden rise in the average AQI of Delhi, the Sub-Committee for invoking actions under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) of the Commission for Air Quality Management in NCR & Adjoining Areas

(CAQM) met today to take stock of the situation.

During the meeting it was noted that this sudden and steep dip in air quality parameters in last 24 hours in the region which led to the overall AQI of Delhi move into the "Severe" category today is an

aberration as the forecasts predict immediate improvement with the overall AQI to move into 'Very Poor' category from tonight itself.

As per the dynamic model and weather/meteorological forecast provided by IMD/IITM, there is a strong indication that the overall air quality of Delhi will start improving, with a downward trend of average AQI already visible, and is likely to fluctuate largely between 'Poor' to 'Very Poor' categories in the coming days.

Considering the above position and after comprehensively reviewing the air quality scenario and other

relevant aspects the Sub-Committee decided that ongoing actions implemented under Stage-II of GRAP along with Stage-I shall continue and it is not considered necessary to invoke Stage-III of

GRAP at this moment.

Various agencies responsible for implementing measures under the GRAP and Pollution Control Boards (PCBs) of NCR and DPCC have also been advised to intensify

pollution control and mitigating measures under Stage-I and Stage-II of GRAP in the entire NCR to prevent the deterioration of air quality. Further, the Sub-Committee is closely watching the situation

and will review the air quality scenario accordingly. The revised schedule of GRAP is available on the Commission's official website and can be accessed via caqm.nic.in.



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Dr Jitendra Singh says, as Minister Incharge Science & Technology, he was proud of the fact that the Department of Biotechnology

Chennai, Jan 22 2023: 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 has lauded "Team Biotech" for the world's first Nasal Vaccine.

He said, as Minister Incharge Science & Technology, he was proud of the fact that the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) under the Ministry and its PSU, Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance (BIRAC) had made the major contribution in developing the world's first Intranasal vaccine for Covid through Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL).

Dr Jitendra Singh gave full credit to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for making this possible and said PM Modi's personal intervention and regular monitoring inspired and enabled the launching of "Mission Covid Suraksha" which has not only strengthened



AtmaNirbhar Bharat but also bolstered India's status as a worldwide vaccine development and manufacturing centre, thus showcasing the strength of India's Science and Technology capabilities. It is a moment of great pride for every Indian, he said.

The Minister elaborated that the product development and clinical trials were funded by the Department of Biotechnology and BIRAC under "Mission Covid Suraksha". This vaccine received approval under restricted use in emergency situations for

ages 18 and above for primary two-dose schedule, homologous booster doses, he added.

National Institute of Immunology (NII) New Delhi, an autonomous institute under the Department of Biotechnology utilised its "Human Immune Monitoring and T-cell Immunoassay Platform" to examine the vaccine-induced SARS-CoV-2-specific systemic and mucosal cellular immune responses in the trial participants.

Interactive Research School for Health Affairs (IRSHA), Pune (supported by DBT

BIRAC) completed the "Plaque Reduction Neutralization Assay" (PRNT) to quantify the titer of neutralising antibodies for the virus from three trial sites.

The vaccine is a recombinant replication deficient adenovirus vectored vaccine with a pre-fusion stabilised spike protein. This vaccine candidate was evaluated in Phases I, II and III clinical trials with successful results. It has been specifically formulated to allow intranasal delivery through nasal drops. The vaccine is stable at 2-8°C for easy storage and distribution.

Pertinent to mention that earlier, ZyCoV-D, the world's first and India's indigenously developed DNA based vaccine for Covid-19 to be administered in humans including children and adults 12 years and above was also developed in partnership with the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) in the Ministry of Science & Technology under 'Mission Covid Suraksha' through BIRAC, a PSU of DBT.

NCGG is working on to create a pool of well-trained civil servants to address emerging challenges



Chennai, Jan 22 2023: With renewed vigour, National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG), an apex-level autonomous institution of Government of India, is expanding and scaling up its activities to in accordance to the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's vision of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayaas to improve the quality of life people of the country as well as of neighbourhood. A two-week capacity-building programmes for the civil servants of Bangladesh, Maldives and state of Arunachal Pradesh was held from the 9th January to 20th January, 2023. The programme was attended by 87 officers comprising 39 civil servants from Bangladesh (56th batch), 26 civil servants from Maldives (20th batch) and 22 civil servants from Arunachal Pradesh (1st batch).

In a first, officers from Arunachal Pradesh were trained at NCGG, both at Mussoorie and New Delhi. This is in furtherance to further improve the governance and public service delivery in North-East and border states as directed by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Minister of State, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. An MoU was signed with NCGG in 2022 to train 500 officers of Arunachal Pradesh over the next five years.

Upholding the spirit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's 'Neighbourhood First' policy, NCGG in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt of India has been helping neighbouring countries among others, in building capacities of their civil servants. NCGG designs and implements capacity-building programmes that focus on various aspects of good governance and

transparent administration for assured public service delivery to improve the quality of life of people.

For the first time, sessions were held jointly to facilitate intellectual interactions and deliberations among participants from three countries. The two-week capacity building programme was scientifically tailored by the NCGG team and included the exchange of vast information, knowledge, new ideas, and best practices that promote citizen-centric governance. The sessions for each training programme were firmed up by the NCGG faculty based on the need of the respective countries and in consultation with Indian Missions. This capacity-building programme will help the civil servants in putting up dedicated efforts to fill in the gaps between policies and implementation in their respective countries/states.

In this 2-weeks programme for the civil servants of Bangladesh, Maldives and state of Arunachal Pradesh, civil servants interacted with domain experts on diverse topics, viz. e-governance, the vision of India @ 2047 and the role of civil servants, decentralised municipal solid waste management, digital India, potential & challenges of the power sector in Arunachal Pradesh, approach to SDGs by 2030, health governance in India, climate change and its impact on biodiversity – policies and global practices, anti-corruption practices, LiFE, circular economy, etc. among other important areas.

The valedictory session was held on the 20th January and was graced by Shri S K Jaiswal, Director, CBI. In his valedictory address, he emphasized the decisive and multi-

pronged action taken against corruption in India. Dwelling deep, he detailed how a number of preventive steps taken by the government with the massive use of information technology and emphasis on ensuring transparency, to root out corruption with huge success. Transparency, accountability, and centrality of citizens have become the hallmark of today's governance in India, he added. He also congratulated Shri Bharat Lal, DG, and his team for imparting such a meaningful programme for the civil servants of Maldives, Bangladesh, and state of Arunachal Pradesh.

As the role of government and the future of public service delivery is constantly evolving, so does the role of civil servants. Considering all the challenges NCGG designs capacity building programme that further helps in improving the quality of life of people.

In his address, Shri Bharat Lal, DG gave actionable advice to the participants to translate their learnings by preparing a plan of action and implement the same to improve the quality of life of their citizens. He emphasized that the capacity-building programmes designed by the NCGG are in consonance with the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's 'Neighbourhood First' policy and upholds the spirit of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'. He urged the civil servants to create an enabling environment for citizens to realize their full potential and no one is left out. In today's India, all programmes/schemes are all inclusive and focused on improving the quality of life people. The need of the poorest of the poor is addressed by the government in a

transparent and without leaving anyone.

On the last day in the session on anti-corruption strategy, Shri Pravin Sinha, Special Director and Shri Anurag, Joint Director, CBI and Shri P. Daniel, Secretary, Central Vigilance Commission along with other officers took sessions about preventive steps, transparency and on use of technology to root out the corruption and ensure good governance.

The high intensity 2-week capacity building programme was conducted with the untiring efforts of the Course Coordinators – Dr. A P Singh (Maldives), Dr. B S Bisht (Arunachal Pradesh) and Dr. Mukesh Bhandari (Bangladesh), also were assisted by the entire NCGG team.

The National Centre for Good Governance was set up in 2014 by the Government of India as an apex-level institution in the country with a mandate to work on good governance, policy reforms, training, and capacity building of civil servants of India as well as other developing countries. It also works as a think tank of the government. In partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs, NCGG has imparted training to civil servants of 15 countries, so far, viz. Bangladesh, Kenya, Tanzania, Tunisia, Seychelles, Gambia, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Laos, Vietnam, Bhutan, Myanmar, and Cambodia. Known for content and delivery, the capacity building programme is highly sought after and NCGG is expanding its capacity to accommodate a higher number of civil servants from various countries as well as various states/ UTs of India as per their requirement.

A nation-wide painting competition to be organised in 500 Kendriya Vidyalayas on 'Parakram Diwas'

Chennai, Jan 22 2023: Key highlights -23rd January 2023 is being observed as 'Parakram Diwas', the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose to inspire students on life of the great leader and instill in them spirit of patriotism.

-The theme of the competition is about becoming an 'Exam Warrior' based on the book written by the Prime Minister.

-A total of 50,000 students expected to take part

In the run to the Pariksha Pe Charcha 2023, a unique initiative to cope up with examination stress amongst the students, a nation-wide painting competition is being organised in 500 different Kendriya Vidyalayas (KV) across the country on 23rd January, 2023. The day is observed as 'Parakram Diwas', the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose to inspire students on life of the great leader and



instill in them spirit of patriotism.

To encourage creative expressions of students, various activities are being organized by Ministry of Education in the schools across the country including painting competition tomorrow.

The painting competition is expected to see diverse participation from students of various CBSE schools, students from State Boards, Navodaya Vidyalayas and Kendriya Vidyalayas in this

unique creative expression of ideas. The theme of the competition is about becoming an 'Exam Warrior' based on the book written by the Prime Minister.

A total of 50 thousand students are expected to take part in this painting competition across the country. The nodal Kendriya Vidyalaya, where the event is to be organized will have 100 students from different schools as participants in this competition. Broadly the 70 students

have been invited from nearby schools of State Board and CBSE schools in the district, 10 participants would be from Navodaya Vidyalaya and 20 students from nodal KVs as well as nearby KVs, if any in the district.

Five best entries will be awarded with a set of books on freedom fighters and topics of national importance and a certificate. Students and teachers are looking forward for this painting competition enthusiastically.

Indian Bank Conducts Mega Road show on CASA Campaign in Chennai



Chennai, Jan 22 2023: Indian Bank today organized a Walkathon led by Mr Mahesh Kumar Bajaj, Executive Director to create awareness among the existing customers as well as general public at Annanagar, Chennai. More than 350 staff members, including senior officials from

Corporate office, Field General Manager Office, Chennai and nearby Zonal offices of the Bank participated in the campaign displaying banners and placards on various deposit products offered by the Bank.

Staff members interacted with joggers and morning walkers in

the Annanagar Roundana and Park area and explaining to the general public about array of products viz., Ind Shakti Term Deposit for 555 days and other Deposit / Digital products etc. Pamphlets with information on Bank's products and Tab Banking Facility were also distributed.

Olympian Shri Vasudevan Baskaran, Padmashree Awardee, Captain of Indian Hockey Team which won Gold Medal at Moscow Olympics and Olympian Ms Manjima Kuriakose, Asian Games Gold Medalist, graced the occasion as Special guests.

Revel in the Experience of Style, Comfort and Luxury Footwear for Men by Language

Chennai, Jan 22 2023: For any occasion, formal or casual, pick a pair of shoes from Language to spruce up your outfit. Be it loafers, monks or derbies, Language has it all. Every pair is endlessly versatile, whilst offering an exceptional quality of leather indulgence to men.

Handcrafted elegance at its best, Language's exquisite Chan Loafers are intricately hand-painted. Beautiful paint strokes by expert craftsmen ensure each pair is nothing less than a piece of art, while the leather lined cushioned footbed delivers great comfort. Elevate your look for any occasion with Chan Loafers from Language, a perfect fit for every moment. Available in a



hionable dual tone of brown and black, these incredible tassel loafers are priced at Rs. 6490 and can be your go-to for all occasions.

Throw in a little flair with Language's classic Smith Monk. Adorned with added straps and a metal buckle ornament, these Python skin textured shoes can easily accessorize modern suits and invigorate your daily work wear. Its leather lined cushioned footbed also makes these shoes easy to wear any day of the week. Efficiently crafted to look classy, these two-toned tan Smith Monks

Language are priced at Rs. 6990 and will make you look flamboyant every time you put them on.

If you are looking for a bold and classy pair of shoes, Language's Zee Derby is the right choice for you. Made from Patent Leather Upper, these classic derbies are a fabulous match of style and sophistication for all your extravagant events. They are crafted with a leather lined cushioned footbed and a leather sole that will always keep your feet at ease. Available in a striking black colour, the Zee Derby from Language is

priced at Rs. 6490 and is the perfect choice to make you the man of the moment of every celebration.

Language uses the finest quality of leather to ensure you revel in the experience of style, comfort and luxury.

Explore the collections from Language at their exclusive brand outlets at Nungambakkam Chennai, Express Avenue Chennai, Sarath City Mall Hyderabad, Lulu Global Mall Bengaluru, Lulu Mall Kochi, Pavilion Mall Ludhiana and more than 200 multi-brand outlets across the country, at Viz., Metro Shoes, Mochi, Inc.5, Centro, Atesber, Regal Shoes. You can also shop the collection online at www.languageshoes.com and www.amazon.in.

ECI to host the 2nd International Conference on 'Use of Technology and Elections Integrity' as the lead for the Cohort on 'Election Integrity'

Chennai, Jan 22 2023: The Election Commission of India (ECI) is hosting the 2nd International Conference on the theme 'Use of Technology and Elections Integrity' at New Delhi on 23-24 January, 2023. ECI is leading the Cohort on Elections Integrity which was established as a follow up to the 'Summit for Democracy' held virtually in December, 2021. The first international conference of the Cohort was organized on 31 Oct-01 Nov, 2022 at New Delhi on the topic 'Role, Framework and Capacity of Election Management Bodies' where nearly 50 representatives from the Election Management Bodies (EMBs) of 11 countries participated.

The two-day international conference will be inaugurated by Chief Election Commissioner of India Shri Rajiv Kumar. The concluding session will be chaired by Election Commissioner of India, Shri Anup Chandra Pandey. Shri Arun Goel, Election Commissioner of India will chair the first technical session. ECI, as the lead for the Cohort on 'Election



Integrity', took a collaborative approach and invited Greece, Mauritius and IFES to be co-leads for the Cohort. ECI has invited International Foundation for Electoral Systems and International IDEA, apart from EMBs and Government counterparts dealing with the conduct of elections worldwide.

Around 43 Participants from 17 Countries/EMBs including Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Chile, Croatia, Dominica, Fiji, Georgia, Indonesia, Kiribati, Mauritius, Nepal, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines and Suriname and 06 participants from international organisations namely,

IFES, International IDEA are expected to join. The representatives from a number of foreign missions located at New Delhi are also expected to attend the conference.

Background: 'Summit for Democracy', was an initiative of US President and hosted in December 2021. The Prime Minister of India spoke at the Leaders Plenary Session on December 9, 2021. Following this Summit, a "Year of Action" was proposed with events and dialogues on themes related to Democracy. The Summit also developed two platforms - 'Focal Groups' and 'Democracy Cohorts' to facilitate participation in the Year of Action. The

2nd Summit for Democracy is scheduled to be held on 29-30 March 2023 and co-hosted by governments of Costa Rica, Rep. of Korea, Netherlands, Zambia and the US.

As part of the 'Summit for Democracy' Year of Action, India through the ECI, is leading the 'Democracy Cohort on Election Integrity' to share its knowledge, technical expertise and experiences with other democracies of the world. ECI, as its lead, has proposed to also provide training and capacity building programmes to Election Management Bodies (EMBs) across the world and provide technical consultancy as per needs of other EMBs.

Chennai, Jan 22 2023: In response to the huge demand for funding for the RE sector, Shri Bhupinder Singh Bhalla assures IREDA that MNRE will provide full support and guidance

Secretary, MNRE, appreciates IREDA for being a pioneer in the field and supporting the RE sector since last 35 years

Employees participated via virtual mode, while Department Heads attended the meeting in person

Secretary, MNRE visits IREDA and interacts with employees

Shri Bhupinder Singh Bhalla, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), visited IREDA's corporate office in Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi, on January 20, 2023. Shri Bhalla reviewed the performance and the future roadmap of IREDA, followed by an interactive session with all employees of the company.

Shri Pradip Kumar Das, Chairman & Managing Director (CMD), IREDA, welcomed the Secretary, MNRE, Shri Dinesh Jagdale, Joint Secretary, MNRE, and other officials from MNRE and shared IREDA's journey over the previous 35 years as well as the future plans. The Secretary was also appraised on sectoral performance, resource mobilisation strategies, initiatives, and diversification plan for

future growth of the organization.

The challenges being

motivated them to contribute to the nation's sustainable development.

specially through activities like yoga, meditation, sports, and trainings, etc.



faced by the company to meet the huge demand for funding for the RE sector were also discussed, for which the Secretary has assured full support and guidance by MNRE. A detailed presentation was also made by CMD, IREDA. All the employees took part in the discussion through virtual mode, and Head of the Departments joined the conversation in person. Further, Secretary, MNRE interacted with each official in person and

In his interaction, the Secretary, MNRE, appreciated IREDA for being a pioneer in the field and supporting the RE sector since last 35 years. He also complimented IREDA's historic performance in the last two fiscal years, which was accomplished amid the worst business environment ever owing to the COVID pandemic. He also appreciated IREDA's initiatives towards holistic growth of its Human Resources

Secretary, MNRE commended IREDA for reducing the net NPA from 5.61% to 2.72% in just 1.5 years. He advised IREDA to devise a suitable mechanism for funding Rooftop Solar, PM-KUSUM, and other RE technologies. As part of the Government of India's goal to have 500 GW of non-fossil fuel capacity by 2030, he also urged IREDA to develop an action plan for financing RE projects in the country.

CMC Vellore and USAID Collaborate to Improve Maternal and Neonatal Health



Chennai, Jan 22 2023: The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) today launched a new Advanced Simulation Lab Center at the Christian Medical College (CMC) in Vellore, Tamil Nadu. The Lab will be used to train doctors, nurses, and emergency teams in maternal and neonatal care, including the latest technologies to respond to mother and infant emergencies, basic and advanced nursing procedures, and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).

Hospitals Abroad (ASHA) program. ASHA helps build bridges of understanding and friendship between the people of the United States of America and India. As such, the facility incorporates American best practices in protocols, patient safety, and debriefing tools that are essential for student evaluation and feedback. Through this initiative, USAID also facilitated cutting-edge commodities and equipment for labor and delivery rooms, as well as the neonatal intensive care unit at the hospital.

to catalyze new ideas, partnerships, and approaches. With this catalytic grant that has facilitated the setting up of the Advanced Simulation Lab Center and advanced labor and delivery room tools at the Christian Medical College, Vellore, USAID aims to accelerate reductions in maternal, newborn, and child mortality and morbidity by increasing the commitment and capacity of locally led institutions and providers to offer high-quality, integrated health care in the state of Tamil Nadu."

healthcare delivery services. In the past also, USAID has supported the setting up of advanced diagnostics, simulation labs, integrated health support systems, and health facilities, improving perinatal outcomes and survival of newborns with cerebral injuries."

Since 1982, USAID has provided over \$11 million for infrastructure, equipment, and other needs to CMC. ASHA provides assistance to overseas schools, libraries, hospitals, and centers of excellence to catalyze collaboration between citizens of the United States and other countries and create self-sustaining local institutions.

USAID/India Health Office Director, Sangita Patel stated, "USAID aims to build upon existing evidence and best practices, as well as

Dr. Vikram Mathews, Director, CMC Vellore, said "The USAID-ASHA grants are a catalyst for bringing a change in

The Advanced Simulation Lab Center is supported by USAID's \$1 million (USD) grant through its American Schools and

Sports Ministry holds its first Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) meeting outside Delhi

Chennai, Jan 22 2023: Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sport (MYAS) on January 19th and 20th held its first Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) meeting outside Delhi and on the sidelines of the ongoing Hockey World Cup in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

The fortnightly meeting, where members of MOC meet to discuss key agenda points of India's Olympic Program and proposals of Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) athletes, was held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha where they also got to see the Indian men's Hockey team play their last group stage match against the Wales team.

Talking about the experience of watching the players first-hand, former Indian Long jumper Anju Bobby George said "With this opportunity (to see the World Cup Match) we got a good chance to see them perform during a competition and can judge them rightly and



can take that into consideration during the next meeting and evaluate them in a better manner to fill in the gap. So for us, it was a great opportunity and I would like to see many more matches, not just in hockey but other sports as well whenever we get a chance."

The Indian men's and women's hockey teams are the only teams that are funded under MYAS's TOPS Scheme and get an annual expenditure of Rs. 24 cr under Sports Authority of India's (SAI) Annual Calendar for Training

and Competitions (ACTC) scheme.

Talking about the importance of TOPS for the players, especially the hockey team, former Indian Hockey Captain Viren Rasquinha said "MOC and TOPS are giving all Indian athletes and the hockey teams so much support in the last few years and we get to see that in their performances, especially that of the men's Hockey team, first by winning an Olympic medal after 41 years and now by going to the World Cup on back of the Olympic medal. so

we have got to keep supporting them."

Generally, MOC members from across India, travel to Delhi every month to discuss TOPS related agendas. During the peak of the COVID-19 outbreak, the meetings were moved to a virtual platform so that the athletes did not suffer due to delays. Post the lockdown, the meetings have adopted a hybrid approach where one meeting in the month is held virtually, while the second one is held as a physical meeting.

GRADE 11 STUDENTS FROM THE JAMNABAI NARSEE SCHOOL, MUMBAI RAISE INR 57.69 L TO SUPPORT UNDERPRIVILEGED STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES WITH RATION KITS FOR A YEAR

Mumbai, Jan 22 2023: Thousands of school-going children in Mumbai from very poor homes have a challenging time wrt their education and food. Many of the families do not have ration cards, stay in rented homes in slums and find meeting ends every month almost



The distribution of the ration kit has already started from Dec 22 in the JUHU area and will commence in Malad by end Jan 2023. See images of how the kit is packed and some images of families getting the kit.

Ration kit distribution in-progress at Sunlight foundation in



LINK.

impossible. The family salary is between INR 8000-10000.

Going to school itself is a luxury for them. The lack of finance at home means their food is always compromised. Getting 3 nutritious meals a day plus ensuring the fees to school is paid puts a lot of stress and pressure on the parents. Parents are daily wagers, vegetable vendors, maids etc.

There are thousands of such families in Juhu, Vile Parle (West) and the Malvani slum in Malad (West) who need urgent help.

Grade 11 students of Jamnabai Narsee School, Vile Parle decided to step in and improve the quality of lives for these underprivileged students by giving them ration kits through a crowdfunding campaign. The plan was to give a ration kit for an entire year. The kit had rice, wheat, pulses, cooking oil, ghee (a luxury for them) and is more than enough for a family of 6 people for a entire month.

The cost of the kit



was approximately INR 2000 and this would dramatically impact the lives of these children and their families as it would ensure FOOD on the table and ensure less financial pressure as the INR 2000 saved is a huge amount for them.

258 students from Grade 11 were trained by the team from Bengaluru based crowdfunding platform Fueladream.com through two in-person training sessions. Each student had their own campaign with a goal of INR 24000. The campaign raised a massive amount of INR 57.69L.

Check what the students did at the link - JNS GRADE 11 CROWDFUNDING

This will impact 240 underprivileged students and their families by ensuring they get rations for an entire 12 months. The crowdfunding campaign was done in partnership with the Mumbai based MUN Charitable Trust and the Rotary Club of Mumbai Bravehearts who together are sourcing, procuring and distributing the ration kits.

This ration kit is a game-changer and makes a big difference to them. It allows them to continue to send their kids to school (as they are otherwise forced to drop out and work and earn) and the kids find it easier to focus on education when food is taken care of.

Juhu. The execution and NGO partners are the MUN foundation and the team from the Rotary Club of Bravehearts.

On Jan 5th 2023 a function was held at the school. Students and their mothers who are beneficiaries came to the JNS school along with the team from the dynamic Rotary Club of Bravehearts, the MUN foundation and Sunlight (about 100 families in Juhu send their students to this foundation for after school classes and are the primary beneficiaries).

Grade 11 students were able to interact with them, understand their plight and situation and ration kits were handed over to them on stage. Students were able to understand how their efforts were truly making a BIG difference to the lives of these children and their families. Many of the mothers were emotional on stage as they kept saying that this kit is a massive life-saver for them. Some of the families have a father who was out of work or unable to work and this kit is literally a lifeline for them.

First meeting of the Youth20 Group to be held in Guwahati from 6th to 8th February

Chennai, Jan 22 2023: As India is hosting the Youth20 (Y20) summit for the first time on the sidelines of the G20 summit, the first meeting of the Y20 Group shall be held in Guwahati from 6th to 8th February, 2023. This is the first of the various meetings to be held on the five Y20 themes across India in a run-up to the final Youth-20 Summit in August 2023. More than 250 delegates from across the world are expected to participate in the 3-day event in Assam. It will focus on five themes of Future of Work; Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction; Peace Building and Reconciliation; Youth

in Democracy and Health, Wellbeing and Sports.

Youth20 is one of the eight official engagement groups under the G20 umbrella. The G20 rotating presidency bears the responsibility of hosting the youth summit, which usually takes place some weeks prior to the traditional forum to know what the youths are thinking and incorporate their suggestions in their own policy proposals. It is an attempt to create a connecting point between G20 governments and their local youth. The Y20 India Summit in 2023 would exemplify India's youth-centric efforts and provide

an opportunity to showcase its values and policy measures to the youth across the globe.

In order to create a participative and inclusive deliberation process in the run up to the Y20 meeting, over 50 Universities/Colleges across the 34 districts of Assam will be organizing seminars, workshops, debates and panel discussions in their campuses from 19th January onwards till the inception meeting. Over 12,000 college/university students are expected to participate in these events. Each Higher Education Institution will be also be

organizing awareness drive at 10 nearby schools to sensitize the schools about G-20 groupings and functioning.

400 participants including Prize winners of competitions from various participating University/College will participate in the central event at IIT-Guwahati on 7th February, 2023 and will be accordingly mentored for understanding Innovations and Industry-Academia linkages. They will also get an opportunity to interact with the international youth delegates to exchange ideas for a shared future.