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Ambani throws his weight behind Gujarat

Sinchan Saha

Mukesh Ambani pledged to meet half the energy needs of the state through renewable energy by 2030 in the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024. Emphasising the company's commitment to Gujarat, he further added that Reliance was, is, and will always remain a Gujarati company. He also recalled that the company had invested over \$150 billion (Rs 12 Lakh Crores) in creating global assets across India in the last 10 years, with more than a third of this investment in Gujarat.

PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the ceremony of the 10th edition of Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024 at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar, on Wednesday, January 10. Gujarat celebrated "20 Years of Vibrant Gujarat as the Summit of Success" with the theme 'Gateway to the Future'. PM Modi inaugurating the 10th edition of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024 recalled that India is the fifth largest economy compared to the 11th position 10 years ago. He also stated that in the next few years, India will be among the top three economies in the world, as predicted by various rating agencies in the world. "Experts can analyse this, but I guarantee that India will become the third largest economy in the world", PM Modi said.

Proud moment for SJU as NCC cadets shine

Pratham Basu

BENGALURU: St Joseph's University has added another feather to its cap recently when its National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets from 1 KAR AIR SQN showcased their excellence at the Republic Day camp and the All India Vayu Sainik Camp (AIVSC), while also being selected for the Youth Exchange Program. In a remarkable feat, eight cadets from St Joseph's University (SJU) participated in the AIVSC camp, securing three national medals as representatives of the Karnataka-Goa directorate. Among them, LFC Shivangi earned silver in the flying competition, Cadet Alan excelled in skeet shooting with a silver, and Cadet Manya showcased her skills in Senior Wing skeet shooting, clinching a bronze. Squadron Leader Paul Newman, with 25 years of NCC experience, hails this achievement of the eight students from SJU as a stupendous record at the national level. AIVSC stands as a presti-



Eight cadets from St Joseph's University at AIVSC NCC camp

Pratham Basu

gious opportunity, paralleling the significance of the Republic Day camp. Paul Newman highlights the loaded journey for cadets, where rigorous training methods are used to select only the mentally and physically resilient. "Air wing NCC cadets are also trained in technical subjects like principles of flight, air navigation, airmanship,

meteorology, aeromodelling, health, hygiene, and current affairs. Further, when competing with around 600 colleges, cadets must demonstrate their valour in these diverse fields," Newman told The Beacon.

St Joseph University is dedicated to cultivating cadets who excel in representing the institution at the highest levels. The

institution's consistent track record of producing high-calibre cadets mirrors the efficiency and precision of a supply line. "The unwavering support from the vice-chancellor, pro-vice chancellor, and registrar of St Joseph's University, who were cadets themselves, remains instrumental in championing the vital NCC training initia-

tives." Newman further said.

Every year, St Joseph University handpicks 20 students from a competitive pool of 200 applicants through a rigorous selection process. Paul Newman said that NCC, although challenging, yields significant rewards. The program provides unique opportunities, such as flight training in twin-seater planes and cost-free instruction in rifle firing and gunmanship. This makes NCC an appealing choice for individuals who aspire to serve in the defence sector while also preparing them to be leaders in other spheres of life.

Newman emphasised that the inherent qualities of being resilient, natural leaders and disciplined individuals make NCC cadets attractive to potential recruiters in both public and private sectors. The success stories of previous cadets like Sai Subhramaniam who won the title "All India best cadet" in 2023 continue to inspire the cadets to carry on the legacy of excellence.

BJP wants to politicise Lord Rama - CM Siddu

Dattatraya D & Sinchan S

BENGALURU: CM Siddaramaiah came down heavily on Thursday on the BJP for utilising the inauguration of Ram Mandir for "electoral gains". Accusing the BJP of politicising the religious event he said that such an event should transcend caste, religion, and party lines and be conducted with devotion and respect. "It has been turned into a party event by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and leaders of the Sangh

Parivar are showing disrespect to Lord Rama and the 140 crore people of the country," he said.

On Wednesday, Congress released a statement on X announcing their non-participation in the Ram Temple inauguration citing that RSS and BJP are using the event for political gains. Following the announcement, the BJP leaders jumped onto the bandwagon to criticise and mock the Congress.

"A religious ceremony that should

have been conducted with reverence has been converted into a political campaign; a betrayal to all Hindus," he said.

Siddaramaiah also maintained that since the beginning of the Ram Janmabhoomi dispute, the Congress party has steadfastly maintained its position and supported the construction of the Ram Temple. The party respected the court's decision and reaffirmed they carry no malice towards Hinduism. "But we stand against

untouchability, casteism, blind faith, and superstitions in the name of religion, he said.

CM said that as a public representative, he has participated in hundreds of religious events, including temple inaugurations and renovations and has built and worshipped a temple of Rama in his village with devotion. He has participated and shown respect in religious events of mosques and churches upholding the Constitutional principle of secularism, he added.

The science of happiness

Sadhika Dasgupta

BENGALURU: Our Fearful Brains and the Transformative Power of Happiness event was held at the Bangalore International Centre on January 9. A Happiness program featuring Ashish Kothari, a Leadership coach and author of "Hardwired for Happiness," along with speaker Bina Mirchandani.

Kothari's book, "Hardwired for Happiness," combines research from psychology, neuroscience, and ancient wisdom traditions into nine proven practices that can rewire the brain to prioritise happiness over fear. His combination approach puts together spiritual wisdom traditions, philosophy, positive psychology, neuroscience, and organisational development.

During the event, Ashish Kothari said, "Awareness at the heart rate is a very interesting construct that doesn't show up in many of the other frameworks. And I fundamentally believe that our awareness, none of them can be activated. Awareness is the most important because awareness is about how we make sense of the world." He also highlighted that we have beliefs, moods, and emotions that are unique to observers.

Tamil Sangam celebrates tradition

Kushal Varma J V

BENGALURU: MIMA, the theatrical club of SJU, put together a performance on Wednesday to celebrate the festive traditions of India. Tamil language faculty, Sarala Arumugam, highlighted that India's diverse and ancient traditions mustn't be forgotten. Tamil Sangam urged students to cherish our culture in anticipation of Pongal.

Tamil actor Jaiseelan Sivaram a guest for the event shared his journey of six years of struggles from acting in short films to landing his debut in his first feature-length film, "Saba Nayagan".



Celebration through traditional dance

Special Arrangement

Various dance forms native to Tamil Nadu were performed throughout the event in tune with the culture of the region to stay in touch with traditional roots. Some of these included

Oyillatam, Karagattam, and Parai attam, a special type of dance where artists dance to the beats of parai (traditional Tamil drum) performed by the Adavi Arts Collective.

Shami conferred Arjuna Award

Shoaib Shakeel

Mohammed Shami, Ojas Pravin Deotale, Aditi Gopichand Swami, and Pawan Kumar were among the athletes who received the Arjuna Award while Chirag Chandrashekhar Shetty and Shri Satwik Sai Raj Rankireddy were awarded the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna at the Sports and Adventure Awards 2023.

President Draupadi Murmu presented the awards at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on January 9 for those who made significant achievements

in the field of sports.

A total of 46 awards were presented: Two Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna awardees, eight Dronacharya awardees, 26 Arjuna awardees, three Dhyan Chand awardees, four Tenzing Norgay National Adventure awardees, two Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar awardees and one Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy received the awardee.

The Khel Ratna comes with a purse of Rs 25 lakh, and the Arjuna and Dronacharya awards include a purse of Rs 15 lakh.