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Josephite's Kannada short film lauded

Athul Krishna

CAMPUS: Sidharth Suresh, a second-year student of St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), is garnering accolades all over the country for his short film Kaanunnundo, which translates to Are You Watching?

The film won the Critics Choice award at the Tagore International Film Festival and the Outstanding Achievement award at the Calcutta International Cult Film Festival.

It has also been officially selected for the Jaipur international film festival and the Jharkhand International Film Festival.

Kaanunnundo questions the lives of minorities and our empathy through the story of a blind man's search. Fighting deep-seated hypocritical and selective societal norms, the film oscillates between fiction and reality.

"The whole team that worked on this film was really happy with the results, the response and the achievements it received. We are proud we were able to tell the stories of minorities who are invisible to the common people in society. We are really happy to tell such stories through our art," said the Bachelor of Visual Communication student.

Indian tech may treat Covid-19 patients

Pavithra Prabhu

The Union Ministry of Science & Technology announced on Thursday, April 8, the development of a multifaceted oxygen enrichment unit that can be used to treat Covid-19 patients.

Prof Harish Hirani, Director of Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI), under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), said the institute has "developed an oxygen enrichment unit that may be very useful for homes, hospitals, defence forces particularly in high altitude terrain and remote rural localities."



CMERI Main Building

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He was quoted as saying in a ministry statement: "It can be more effective and crucial for treating the patients of Covid-19."

The statement noted that the facility will help in High Flow Oxygen Therapy, which

is proven to be a better method in the treatment and management of Covid-19 patients.

He added: "This unit may help reduce the demand for oxygen cylinders and ventilators and due to the rise in air pollution its demand is supposed to grow very rapidly as it is also useful for maintaining proper oxygen levels for an optimum healthy environment."

According to the statement, the unit is capable of delivering oxygen at a rate of up to 30 litres per minute (LPM), and may be used in remote places, homes or hospital-like facilities for patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases (COPD), chronic hypoxemia and pulmonary oedema.

The material cost of this unit is approximately Rs 35,000, said the statement.

Ex-CM slams state govt

Sudarshani

Former Karnataka chief minister Siddaramiah on Thursday, April 8, criticised the state government's response to the Road Transport Corporation's (RTC) state-wide strike which began on Wednesday.

"Inefficient & corrupt administration of @BJP4Karnataka govt is the only reason for this fiasco [sic]," he tweeted on Thursday.

He said the false promises made by the BJP-run state government were the major reason for the fallout.



Ex Karnataka CM Siddaramaiah

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"@BJP4Karnataka govt should have thought through the impact of the promises they made during the last KSRTC employees' strike [sic]," he said in another tweet.

The Congress leader also slammed the Karnataka BJP for its failure to solve the

crisis. "Instead of solving the crisis through dialogue & discussions with the employees' union, @BJP4Karnataka govt is trying to threaten the employees by allowing private buses & citing ESMA provisions," he tweeted.

French Open postponed by one week to May 30

Vandana Nampoothiri

The French Tennis Federation (FFT) in a statement on Thursday, April 8, confirmed that it has postponed the French Open by one week.

The tournament will now take place from May 30 to June 13 instead of May 23 to June 6.

"The FFT, for this 2021 edition of Roland-Garros, aims at maximising the chances — for the players and for the overall tennis community that the tournament is played in front of the largest possible number of fans, while guaranteeing health and safety," said the organisers.

The decision came in the wake of rising Covid-19

cases in France.

The decision was also supported by the Grand Slam Board.

Gilles Moreton, president of FFT, said, "I am delighted that the discussions with the public authorities, the governing bodies of international tennis, our partners and broadcasters, and the ongoing work with the WTA and ATP, have made it possible for us to postpone the 2021 Roland-Garros tournament by a week. I thank them for this."

He added: "For the fans, the players and the atmosphere, the presence of spectators is vital for our tournament."

The health and safety protocols for the event will reportedly be announced at a later date.

Maintain hygiene to avoid maskne, says expert

Priyansha

BENGALURU: Wearing a mask is a compulsory task but with it also comes the problem of maskne (mask-related acne), complain people who have to go out on a regular basis.

Dristhi Aghi, 23, an interior designing apprentice, said, "Masks are necessary for protection, but in recent times it has given me severe redness and acne on my face. It causes a lot of oiliness around my nose and cheeks; it's obviously a result of my skin not able to breathe enough."



Representational Image

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Angira Bhattacharya, a 20-year-old student, said, "I have oily skin and have been going out to write my offline exams, which involves a lot of travelling. Wearing masks on a regular basis gave me a

lot of itchininess on my face." Bengaluru-based cosmetic surgeon NV Kiran Prasad explained: "Maskne occurs in patients wearing masks for long hours. We should not neglect wearing masks, but

might want to remove them whenever we are alone. We should not forget to maintain mask-related hygiene. If you are using surgical masks, dispose of them after every use. If you are using washable masks, wash them after every use."

He added, "Wash your face at least three times a day. Maintain oral hygiene as well, because when we try speaking with masks on, it accumulates secretions like oral moisture, sebum, nasal discharges and sweat. This leads to an increase in bacteria, which might cause breakouts on your face."



Roland Garros Stadium

Twitter