

PR SENSE

Spreading positive vibrations

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**Viswanathan
Anand made
India proud**

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From the desk of Editor-in-Chief Interesting facts of the history cannot be ignored

The Editorial Team received enormous response after the resumption of the ezine PreSense after a break of a few months.



During the month of May, Indian Parliament celebrated the 60th Anniversary. National Technology Day was celebrated in May, to remember the Pokran II. The death anniversary of Field Marshal Cariappa, the first General of Indian Army after Independence was observed in May.

Most of the younger generation may not know the sacrifices and contributions made by our founding fathers. PreSense

has made an attempt to refresh the memory of the relevant events. We are confident that our readers will enjoy reading the interesting facts of the history.

We are also featuring some of the 'Ignited Minds', who contribute to the society in their own way. They are a source of inspiration.

Our PRince has come back with his usual wit and humour. Please enjoy reading the ezine and send us your feedback.

K. Srinivasan

What you will be remembered for?

I would like to ask you, what would you like to be remembered for? You have to evolve yourself and shape your life. You should write it on a page. That page may be a very important page in the book of human history. And you will be remembered for creating that one page in the history of the nation. Whether that page is the page of invention, the page of innovation or the page of discovery or the page of creating societal change or a page of removing the poverty or the page of fighting injustice or planning and executing mission of networking of rivers. – Dr APJ Abdul Kalam



Viswanathan Anand makes India proud

On 30th May 2012, Viswanathan Anand has beaten Boris Gelfand to win World Chess title. With this, Anand has won his fifth world chess championship title and fourth-in-a-row after winning the ultimate glory in 2000, 2007, 2008 and 2010. Congratulations Anand. We are proud of you.

Scientific magnanimity - Gesture by Prof. Norman Borlaug



Nobel Laureate Prof. Norman E Borlaug was the main scientist behind the first Indian Green Revolution unfolded in 1960s. He was honoured on 15th March 2005 by Dr Abdul Kalam, when he was the President of India. Recalling that event at Moradabad now on 21st May 2012, Dr Kalam brought out the concept of 'scientific magnanimity', which applies to every one. Excerpts from his speech:

Source: <http://goo.gl/kNROG>

Quote

Scientific Magnanimity: Now, I would like to narrate an incident which took place during a function where Nobel Laureate Prof. Norman E Borlaug, a well known agricultural scientist and a partner in India's first Green revolution, was conferred with Dr. MS Swaminathan Award, at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi on the 15th of March 2005. Prof. Borlaug, at the age of 91, was in the midst of all the praise showered on him from everybody gathered there. When his turn came, he got up and highlighted India's advancement in the agricultural science and production and said that the political visionary Shri C. Subramaniam and Dr. MS Swaminathan, pioneer in agricultural science were the prime architects of First Green Revolution in India.

Even though Prof Norman Borlaug was himself a partner in the first green revolution, he did not make a point on

this. He recalled with pride, Dr. Verghese Kurien who ushered White Revolution in India. Then the surprise came. He turned to scientists sitting in the third row, fifth row and eighth row of the audience. He identified Dr. Raja Ram, a wheat specialist, Dr SK Vasal, a maize specialist, Dr. BR Barwale, a seed specialist. He said, all these scientists had contributed for India's and Asia's agricultural science. Dr. Borlaug introduced them to the audience by asking them to stand and ensured that the audience cheered and greeted the scientists with great enthusiasm.

This action of Dr. Norman Borlaug, I call it as "Scientific Magnanimity". Friends, if we aspire to achieve great things in life, we need scientific magnanimity to focus the young achievers. It is my experience that great mind and great heart go together. This scientific magnanimity will motivate the scientific community and nurture the spirit of achievement among the young towards science.

Unquote

If we aspire to achieve great things in life, we need scientific magnanimity to focus the young achievers.

60th Anniversary of Indian Parliament – Interesting facts

On 13th May 2012, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha completed 60 years of their first sitting. On this occasion, Parliament Secretariat organised a special sitting on 13th May 2012 (Sunday). President of India also joined the celebrations and honoured four Parliamentarians who were the members of the first Lok Sabha. Let us be proud of our great democracy, our great Institutions and founding fathers of our nation. Please read an article which contains interesting facts about the First Election Commission, First Lok Sabha, and eminent Parliamentarians who were part of the first Parliament.



http://groups.yahoo.com/group/India_Vision_2020/message/3211

Pokran II - A milestone in Indian history



On 11th May 1998, India test exploded 3 nuclear devices and on 13 May 1998 two more nuclear devices at the Pokhran Test Range. This has become popularly known as Pokhran II. This operation was code named as 'Operation Shakthi'. From that day, India celebrates 11th May every year as National Technology Day.

On 18th May 1974, India exploded a nuclear device which was then code

named as operation 'Smiling Buddha'. This is known as Pokhran I and this was done during Indira Gandhi regime. After nearly quarter century, India undertook Pokhran II, during Vajpayee regime.

Pokhran II was done jointly by DRDO and DAE. Dr APJ Abdul Kalam and Dr R Chidambaram were the coordinators.

Operation Shakthi was kept highly secret, that even the family members of the scientists working in the project were not aware of what was happening. Even the American Satellites could not locate the operation. After the explosion, Americans reported this as a tremor. Only after Indian Prime Minister Vajpayee proudly announced the explosion to the media, the entire world came to know of this.

Please read the interesting facts behind Pokhran II (Photo courtesy: The Hindu)

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/India_Vision_2020/message/3216

Top 5 Indian Parliamentarians at the end of Budget Session 2012 (15th Lok Sabha)

The first sitting of the current 15th Lok Sabha was held on 1st June 2009. From then on, the Lok Sabha had 10 Sessions and 243 sittings till date. The latest Budget Session 2012 was held till 22nd May 2012. Lok Sabha Secretariat has now released the data relating to the debates, questions and private bills raised by the members. PRS India has consolidated this information and published the individual performance of all the members. The top 5 overall performers of 15th Lok Sabha till the end of Budget Session 2012:



Mr Anandrao Adsul, Shiv Sena MP from Maharashtra - He has participated in 29 debates, raised 806 Questions, introduced 4 Private Members Bills. His total tally is 838, He stands No 1 in the overall tally and also in 'Raising Questions'.

Mr S S Ramasubbu, Congress MP from Tamilnadu – He has participated in 118 debates and raised 701 Questions. His total tally is 819. He ranks No 2 in the overall tally and No 6 in 'Raising Questions' in the Lok Sabha. He has attended 98% of the sittings.



Mr Hansraj Gangaram Ahir, BJP MP from Maharashtra – He has participated in 87 Debates, introduced 24 Private Members Bills and raised 702 Questions. His total tally is 813, He ranks No 1 in the Lok Sabha for introducing 'Private Members Bills'. He ranks No 5 in 'Raising Questions'.

Mr Asaduddin Owaisi, AIMIM MP from Andhra Pradesh has participated in 28 debates, introduced 1 Private Members Bill and raised 766 Questions. His total tally is 795. He ranks No 2 in 'Raising Questions' in the Lok Sabha.



Mr Arjun Ram Meghwal, BJP MP from Rajasthan – He has participated in 308 Debates, introduced 16 Private Members Bills and raised 438 Questions. He ranks No 1 in participation in 'Debates'. He also ranks No 3 in introducing 'Private Members Bills'. He has attended 99% of the sittings.

Source: <http://www.prpoint.com/loksabha/15LS-budget2012.xls>



Gen. K M Cariappa, India's first Army General – Inspiring facts

After gaining Independence a meeting was organized to select the first General of the Indian Army. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru chaired that meeting. Leaders and Army officers were discussing to whom this responsibility should be given. In between the discussion Nehru said, "I think we should appoint a British officer as a General of Indian Army as we don't have enough experience to lead the same." Everybody supported Nehru because if the PM was suggesting something, how can they not agree?

But one of the army officers abruptly said, "I have a point, sir."

Nehru said, "Yes, gentleman. You are free to speak."

He said, "You see, sir, we don't have enough experience to lead a nation too, so shouldn't we appoint a British person as first PM of India?"



The meeting hall suddenly went quiet.

Then, Nehru said, "Are you ready to be the first General of Indian Army?"

He got a golden chance to accept the offer but he refused the same and said, "Sir, we have a very talented army officer, my senior, Lt Gen Cariappa, who is the most deserving among us." (extreme right in the photo)

The army officer who raised his voice against the PM was Lt General Nathu Singh Rathore, the 1st Lt General of the Indian Army.

On being appointed as the first Commander-in-Chief of an independent Indian Army on 15 January 1949, Gen. Cariappa was instrumental in the integration of troops and turning an imperial army into a national army.

During the 1965 war, when his son, an Indian Air Force pilot, flew an aircraft. The plane was shot down by Pakistan. He was captured and imprisoned as a Prisoner of War (POW). When Ayub Khan learned about this, he informed Cariappa he would not be kept in a POW Camp like other Indian POWs, since they had worked together before independence. But Cariappa politely declined the offer, saying every soldier in the Indian Army was his son, so he could not request special privileges for only one.

As a token of gratitude of the nation for the exemplary service rendered by him, the Government of India conferred Cariappa with the rank of Field Marshal in 1983. On 15th May 1993, Field Marshal K M Cariappa died in Bangalore, when he was 94. Let us all salute this great Indian Soldier.

Source: Internet sources. Photo courtesy: The Hindu

PRince

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Ignited Minds – Jagadeeswaran gave vision to 1000 blind persons



In 1985, While waiting in a saloon on a Sunday morning, Mr S B Jagadeeswaran of Coimbatore (now aged 58) was scanning the newspapers. He was reading about some of the Guinness record achievers. In the same page, he also read the story on the plight of blind people. That triggered a spark in his mind and he realised the purpose of his life. At He decided to help the blind people restore the vision and contribute something for the benefit of the

society. From that day onwards, he started campaigning for 'eye donation'.

Whenever he gets the information about the death of any person within 60 KM radius of Coimbatore, he rushes to the place immediately. He talks to the important people in the family about the importance of 'eye donation'. In most of the cases, he convinces them and takes the permission to remove the eyes of the deceased person.

Immediately, he alerts the eye bank at Coimbatore and they remove the eyes of the deceased within six hours of the death. Again, he visits the house on the 7th or 9th day as per their custom and hands over the certificate duly framed,

Till date, he has managed to get 523 pairs of eyes from the deceased persons. Because of this, 1046 blind persons have got the vision free of cost.

It is not that every time, he gets the support of the family members of the deceased person. He was also beaten up by some of the villagers and had to be hospitalized.

On an average, he gets around 3 pairs of eyes every month. He works as an 'agent' for a transport company. With his meagre income, he also spends around Rs.750/- to Rs.1000/- every time, he visits the places whenever he hears about the death of any person. Though all the service clubs honour him, nobody supports him financially.

Besides campaigning for eye donation, he also campaigns for 'blood donation'. So far, he has secured nearly 5000 units of blood. He himself has donated blood 67 times. His wife has also donated 30 times. He loves the great leaders of India. He has named one of his sons 'Subash Chandra Bose' and next son 'Vivekananda'.

He can be reached at 9443263868 or through email anandh_vvv@yahoo.in

Ignited Minds – Giving back to the society through music



Shillong Chamber Choir

The Shillong Chamber Choir is a group of young singers from the little town of Shillong, tucked away in the picturesque hills in North-East India. They first made an impression with the rest of India when they performed on the popular television music competition, 'India's Got Talent' in 2010. Competing against many talents from all over India, they stole the hearts of the judges and the national and international viewers alike and won the first place. Thereafter, there was no looking back as they reached out

in India and the world through their music and its goodwill messages. And in every performance is a quiet man, who accompanies them on the piano in the background, where the spotlight does not focus. He is the teacher, the mentor, the guide and the one who transformed these youngsters into becoming citizens with a life-purpose and music in their hearts – Neil Nongkyrih.

Neil Nongkyrih, a native of Shillong, was a successful musician in the international arena, performing before the British Royalty in UK and later in other recitals in mainland Europe. Back home, he had the honour of performing before the then President of India, Dr. Abdul Kalam, as well as the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh. It was in the year 2001, when Neil visited his hometown in Shillong on a long holiday, after about thirteen years of living and working abroad. He was struck by the simplicity of life, the warmth of the people and the homeliness of the place... things he had taken for granted when he grew up there, and had forgotten about while he lived abroad. This was his calling – a longing to remain in Shillong and be engaged in giving back something to his society through music, an area of his focus and expertise. He did not return abroad.

As Neil watched the young children of his hometown, he saw in them the potential for making a wave and bringing joy to people through music. He ventured into a genre quite unexplored before – choir music, which was not just church music as is traditionally identified with. The road was challenging as he endeavoured to sustain the interest and perseverance of the children. Through this self-found school of music, Neil instils the spirit to 'dare to dream' in his large group of young hearts, to learn to make a living through music, to reach out to people through their music and to lead purposeful lives. According to Neil, *"Having a large group of young people has its own pros and cons. You have to do more than singing. One has to be dedicated to living in harmony with one another and after that, the music takes its right place."* Neil connected the quiet North-eastern Shillong society with the rest of India through the magic of music. And the magic continues.

Their official website is <http://www.shillongchamberchoir.com>

Ignited Minds – ‘Mugavari’ Ramesh supports 150 students

After passing the graduation with a Gold Medal, Ramesh hailing from a poor family of Arathi Agraharam village of Salem District joined the articleship for Chartered Accountancy. In 2002, when he admitted his elder sister for some serious illness at Chennai General Hospital, the indifferent and arrogant attitude of the doctors led to the death of his sister. That incident sparked in his mind to get a few doctors from his village to serve the poor people with humaneness.

When he returned to his village, one poor girl Kasthuri with high marks had secured admission in a medical college. As she did not have enough money, she could not pursue her medical course. Ramesh and his family members started collecting money from various sponsors and helped her to join and complete the course. After practising for two years, Kasthuri is now studying MS.



On hearing the news that Ramesh helped Kasturi, many other poor students with high marks started approaching him for support. He got sponsorship from various donors. In the process, he was under confusion whether to pursue his Chartered Accountancy or to help the poor students. At the advice of another poor student Vetrivel, he chose to help the poor students for higher studies, sacrificing his Chartered Accountancy studies. Incidentally, Vetrivel is now an IAS aspirant.

The journey was tough. He wanted to ensure all the poor students from his village got higher education. The financial support from Mr Saidai Duraiswamy (presently the Mayor of Chennai Corporation) and an industrialist Mr R Krishnamurthy (MD of Suryan Pharma) helped many poor students to pursue higher education in various institutions. Later many other sponsors also supported this initiative.

Nearly 150 students are pursuing degree and post graduate courses in various professional and technical institutions. A few of them are pursuing PhD also. 33 students are now preparing for IAS and other Civil Services. Ramesh has arranged sponsorship for preparation of Civil Service Examinations too. A month ago, one of the students, Bhoopathy Raja was selected for Indian Revenue Service (IRS) and he will be joining duty soon.

Ramesh started **Mugavari Foundation** with some of his village friends as Trustees to take care of this activity. ‘Mugavari’ in Tamil means ‘address’. Through this Foundation, Ramesh wants to give an identity to all poor students with higher Qualification. Out of 150 students, 60 are from his small village. The others are from the neighbouring villages.

More than 30 male students are living under a single roof, the accommodation provided by Mayor Mr Saidai Duraiswamy. All the beneficiary students have pledged to support poor students in the same way, after they get into employment. “My aim is to make nearly 100 IAS and allied civil service officers, to serve the nation with commitment”, says Mr ‘Mugavari’ Ramesh with beaming confidence.

Their website is <http://www.mugavarifoundation.org/> and they can be reached through mail mugavariramesh@gmail.com

Beware! Social media does not give you absolute freedom

In the past, social media status messages have cost the career of many. A few months back, one of the Central Ministers had to quit the cabinet for tweeting unwanted messages. Last week, Bangalore based Tamil actress Dhanya Balakrishna (a post graduate in mass communication) has spoiled her ambition to act in Tamil films due to her status message on facebook.

After Chennai Super Kings (CSK) entered Finals in IPL5 Cricket match beating Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB), she posted a status message in her facebook (see picture)

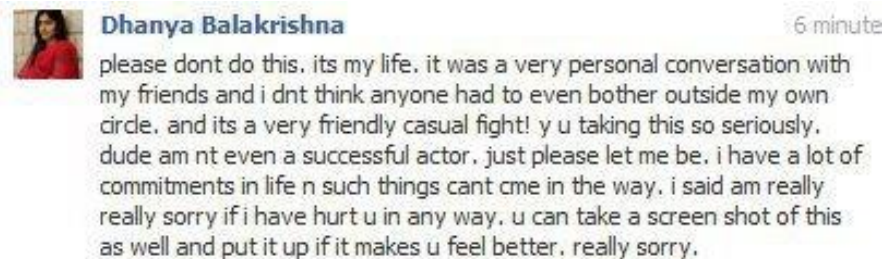


She being an actress, within a few seconds, hate messages started pouring on to her facebook page. New Facebook pages were created to publish anti-Dhanya messages, some bordering around vulgarity.

Similarly, her friends and fans from Bangalore also created counter facebook pages in her support. These messages started spreading hatred and enmity between the two states.

Even the main line media reported about this. Sensing the seriousness of the situation Dhanya published another status message on her facebook and twitter.

In this message, she apologised for hurting the feelings of a section of the society. She announced that she had cancelled all her shootings to quit Tamil Cinema industry. She even disabled all her social media sites.



Though the controversy has ended, the question remains whether the social media users have absolute right and freedom to write anything of their choice. Cyber Law experts say that social media users enjoy the similar freedom and responsibility as print and broadcast media. They cannot assume more freedom than these media.

Legal implications

Promoting enmity between different groups on grounds of religion, race, place of birth, residence, language, etc., through communication and doing acts prejudicial to maintenance of harmony is punishable under Sec 153A of Indian Penal Code and Sec 66A of Information Technology Act with 3 years of imprisonment and fine.

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