

IIT Madras receives historic Rs 228 crore donation from 1970 alumnus

Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) has received its largest single donation ever of Rs 228 Crore from its Distinguished Alumnus Awardee Dr. Krishna Chivukula. This generous donation is one of the largest ever made to an educational institution in India's history. In recognition of this historic contribution, IIT Madras has named an academic block the 'Krishna Chivukula Block'. The naming ceremony was held on August 6, 2024, attended by Dr. Krishna Chivukula, IIT Madras Director Professor V Kamakoti, Dean of Alumni and Corporate Relations Professor Mahesh Panchagnula, and other faculty, researchers, staff, and students. The substantial donation will be utilised for multiple purposes, including supporting international students through scholarships, research excellence grants, an undergraduate fellowship



programme, a sports scholar programme, and the development of the Shaastra Magazine. Additionally, funds will be allocated for the maintenance of the Krishna Chivukula Block and other activities. Dr. Krishna Chivukula graduated from IIT Madras with an MTech in Aerospace Engineering in 1970 and received an MBA from Harvard Business School in 1980. He has had a distinguished career, founding two

world-leading companies in succession: Shiva Technologies Inc. and Indo MIM Pvt Ltd. He has also made significant strides in engineering manufacturing technology. In 1997, he introduced the state-of-the-art Metal Injection Molding (MIM) technology to India. His company, INDO US MIM Tec, now leads the world in MIM technology in terms of capacity and sales, with a projected turnover of nearly Rs 1,000 crore. Professor V Kamakoti expressed profound gratitude, stating, "That our alumnus still remembers his Alma Mater after several decades reinforces the fact that education is the only immortal wealth that we can give to mankind. Grateful to Shri Krishna Chivukula for his big contribution, which will benefit several future generations of students in their pursuit of knowledge." Professor Mahesh Panchagnula lauded Dr.

Chivukula's generosity, "Dr. Krishna Chivukula is not just a successful techno-businessperson but also an ideal alumnus. His humility and generosity will stand as exemplar characteristics for generations of alumni." Kaviraj Nair, CEO of the Office of Institutional Advancement, IIT Madras, added, "We are profoundly grateful to Dr. Krishna Chivukula, an esteemed alumnus of IIT Madras, for his extraordinary generosity and unwavering commitment to our institution." IIT Madras raised a record Rs 513 Crore during the financial year 2023-24, a 135% increase from the previous year. The funds were raised through contributions from alumni, individual philanthropists, CSR funds, and grants from corporate firms. The total amount raised through alumni alone was Rs 367 Crore, marking a 282% increase from the previous year.

Daughter Turns Inspiration As CJI Chandrachud Goes Vegan



New Delhi: Drawing inspiration from his daughters, Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud said that he has opted to turn completely vegan. Addressing a Delhi High Court event, CJI Chandrachud threw light on the conversation he had with his daughter where the latter stressed on leading a "cruelty-free life". "I have two daughters who are specially-abled, and they continue to inspire me in whatever I do. I have gone vegan recently because my daughter said we should lead a cruelty-free life," CJI said.

CJI Chandrachud Avoids Buying Silk, Leather Items

Chandrachud said that he initially embraced veganism by eliminating dairy and honey from his diet, adopting a strictly vegan lifestyle. However, his daughters later told him that this wasn't sufficient; he needed to avoid wearing anything made from "cruelty". "I don't buy any silk products or any new leather products. My wife doesn't buy any silk or leather products either. Whatever we have we cannot throw away, but at least it's the first step towards a more vegan life style," he added. Chandrachud made his remarks during the inauguration of a Sagar Ratna restaurant at the Delhi High Court campus and the launch of the court's Digital Law Reports.

What 'Vegan' Means ?

Veganism is a lifestyle and dietary choice that excludes all animal products. This means that vegans do not consume meat, dairy, eggs, or honey, and they also avoid using or wearing products made from animals, such as leather, wool, and silk. The aim of veganism is to minimize harm to animals and reduce the exploitation of animal resources. Many vegans also seek to avoid products that involve animal testing or are associated with environmental damage linked to animal agriculture.

India Intensifies Action on Black Money and Money Laundering: Latest Figures Revealed

New Delhi: India has significantly ramped up its efforts to combat black money and money laundering over the past nine years, as detailed in a report to Parliament on Tuesday. The government has launched 163 investigations and issued assessment orders in 652 cases under the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, raising a demand of ₹17,162 crore. Union Minister of State for Finance, Pankaj Chaudhary, provided these figures in a written response to the Rajya Sabha. He noted that, as of March 31, 2024, the government had passed orders under sections 10(3) and 10(4) of the Act, resulting in the aforementioned demand, and initiated 163 prosecutions. The minister also highlighted that, from 2019-20 to 2023-24, 109 of these prosecutions were launched. The Black Money Act, introduced by the National

Democratic Alliance (NDA) in July 2015, aims to tackle black money stashed abroad and the evasion of taxes related to such assets. A Special Investigation Team (SIT) was also established to address this issue. The law provided a one-time opportunity for individuals to disclose undisclosed foreign assets. During the three-month compliance window from July 1 to September 30, 2015, 648 disclosures involving assets worth ₹4,164 crore were made, leading to tax and penalty collections totaling approximately ₹2,476 crore. In addition, Chaudhary provided an update on money laundering investigations conducted by the Enforcement Directorate (ED). As of July 31, 2024, the ED had filed 7,083 cases under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) and attached properties worth ₹1.31 lakh crore. Between January 1, 2019, and



July 31, 2024, 4,467 PMLA cases were registered, and charge sheets were filed in 831 of these cases. The ED has also filed charge sheets against 1,519 companies under PMLA since January 1, 2019. The PMLA, enacted in 2002 and implemented on July 1, 2005, grants the ED substantial powers to record statements and use them to file charge sheets, playing a crucial role in the fight against financial crimes.

Every penny raised will be used for Wayanad, will rebuild all houses: CM

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Tuesday said that foreign environmental architects will be brought in to implement rehabilitation and townships in Chooralmala and Mundakkai in Wayanad which were recently hit by landslides. Speaking at a press conference, the Chief Minister said that every money raised will be used for Wayanad. "We have not estimated how much money will be needed for rehabilitation. The government will definitely raise sufficient money required for the rehabilitation of the affected people. The government will directly implement the project. Whether the township should be situated in the disaster area itself or somewhere else will shortly be decided by the authorities. The Vellarmala Govt School, destroyed by the landslide, will be rebuilt under the same name. We will rebuild all houses in the region," the CM said. "Buildings that are severely damaged and liable to collapse will be demolished as per the Disaster



Management Act. The Public Works Department will calculate the compensation. The Disaster Management Authority will conduct a 'Post Disaster Needs Assessment'," the CM said. 180 working days through the employment guarantee scheme. Wards 10, 11 and 12 directly affected by the landslide in Meppadi Gram Panchayat have been declared disaster-affected areas. Here, 180 working days will be provided through the employment guarantee scheme. The Relief Commissioner has been assigned to take necessary steps for the visit of a four-member Inter-Minis-

terial Central Team (IMCT) headed by the Union Home Ministry Joint Secretary to the disaster area. Salary challenge It is agreed that government employees and those working in public sector institutions, aided schools and colleges will contribute at least five days' salary towards the reconstruction of Wayanad. Employees can opt to donate the money in multiple instalments or all at once. Those who pay in instalments should pay one day's salary in the next month and two days' salary in the following two months. Further actions will be taken through SPARK software. Onam exams postponed The first term examinations scheduled to be held from September 2 to 12 have been postponed in Vellarmala and Mundakkai schools. The new dates will be announced later. Free electricity to three wards in Meppadi Electricity Minister K Krishnankutty directed the KSEB to provide free power for six months in wards 10, 11 and 12 of the Meppadi panchayat which were hit by the landslides.

FM Sitharaman Clarifies Minimum Balance Rules For PM Jan Dhan And Savings Accounts

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman clarified on Wednesday that minimum account balance rules do not apply to PM Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) accounts or basic savings accounts. This exemption means that these types of accounts do not require customers to maintain a minimum balance. In response to a question in the Rajya Sabha, Sitharaman stated, "Minimum account balance rules are not applicable to PM Jan Dhan accounts or basic savings accounts. These rules apply only to bank accounts that require customers to keep a specified minimum balance." This statement addressed concerns over the Rs 8,500 crore collected in penalties by public sector banks over the past five years for non-maintenance of minimum balance. Several government banks have imposed fines for not maintaining the required minimum balance. These include Punjab National Bank, Bank of Baroda, Bank of India, Punjab and Sind Bank, Union Bank of India, UCO Bank, Indian Bank,



Canara Bank, Bank of Maharashtra, and Central Bank of India. Minister of State (MoS) for Finance, Pankaj Chaudhary, had previously reported to the Lok Sabha that public sector banks collected Rs 2,331 crore in fines during the financial year 2023-24 alone. Specifically, Punjab National Bank collected Rs 633 crore, Bank of Baroda Rs 386 crore, and Indian Bank Rs 369 crore in penalties for non-maintenance of minimum balance. "This amount was 25 per cent more than the amount from last year," the MoS said. The Finance Minister's comments aim to clarify the scope of minimum balance rules and the types of accounts they affect.

'Come Back Stronger!': PM Modi Consoles Vinesh Phogat As She Gets Disqualified From Paris Olympics 2024



Prime Minister Narendra Modi came forward and consoled India's star woman wrestler Vinesh Phogat after she was disqualified from the 50 kg women's wrestling event on Wednesday. Taking to his official account on X, Modi posted, "Vinesh, you are a champion among champions! You are India's pride and an inspiration for each and every Indian. Today's setback hurts. I wish words could express the sense of despair that I am experiencing. At the same time, I know that you epitomise resilience. It has always been your nature to take challenges head on. Come back stronger! We are all rooting for you." According to a report citing sources, PM Narendra Modi spoke to IOA President PT Usha and sought first-hand information from her on the issue and the options India has in the wake of Vinesh's setback. He reportedly also asked her to explore the full range of options to help Vinesh's case. He also urged PT Usha to file a strong protest regarding her disqualification if that helps Vinesh. Grappler Vinesh Phogat was disqualified today from the 50 kg women's wrestling event. Vinesh was scheduled to take on United States's Sarah Ann Hildebrandt in the Gold Medal match. A statement issued by the Indian Olympic contingent said that Phogat had tipped the scales above the 50 kg mark and was disqualified. "It is with regret that the Indian contingent shares news of the disqualification of Vinesh Phogat from the Women's Wrestling 50 kg class. Despite the best efforts by the team through the night, she weighed in a few grams over 50 kg this morning. No further comments will be made by the contingent at this time. The Indian team requests you respect Vinesh's privacy. It would like to focus on the competitions on hand," the statement read. Vinesh Phogat had entered the Gold Medal bout after beating Cuba's Yusneylis Guzman Lopez 5-0 in the semi-finals on Tuesday night.

How Did Sheikh Hasina Land Safely In India

New Delhi: Given the events that unfolded in Bangladesh just before 3 pm and after 3 pm on Monday, August 5, it was certain that Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina would not be staying in the country. As she boarded the C-130 transport aircraft and took off, it was certain that she will turn toward India, a friendly neighbour and a staunch ally. And it happened exactly that way as her aircraft headed toward the western side. In India, security agencies were prepared for all eventualities. The Indian Air Force (IAF) radars actively monitored the airspace over Bangladesh and detected a low-flying aircraft approaching India around 3 PM. The aircraft was permitted entry into Indian airspace as air defense personnel were aware of its occupants. To ensure the aircraft's security, two Rafale fighter jets from

the 101 Squadron at Hashimara Air Base in West Bengal were deployed over Bihar and Jharkhand. The C-130 transport aircraft, which was carrying the former premier, followed its designated flight path under the close surveillance of ground agencies, which maintained constant communication with senior Indian security officials, according to sources. Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari and General Upendra Dwivedi, the heads of the Indian Air Force and Indian Army respectively, were closely monitoring the situation, the sources added. Furthermore, a high-level security meeting took place, involving the chiefs of intelligence agencies, General Dwivedi, and the chief of Integrated Defence Staff, Lieutenant General Johnson Philip Mathew. Upon Sheikh Hasina's aircraft touching down at Hindon air base at ap-



proximately 5:45 PM, she was welcomed by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval. They engaged in an hour-long meeting where the ongoing situation in Bangladesh and her subsequent plans were discussed. Later in the evening, the NSA departed from the airbase to provide a briefing at a Cabinet Committee of Security meeting, which was presided over by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The PM was kept informed about the developments throughout the day.

The Longest Railway Station Name In India Has 57 Letters: Details Here

Indian Railways ranks fourth in the world's largest train network with around 1,14,500-kilometre track and about 7,500-8000 stations. But do you know out of these 8000 stations, which Indian Railway Station has the longest name? Recently, the Southern Railway posted some interesting facts about the Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran Central Railway Station, in Tamil Nadu on their official X handle. As per the post, the Chennai Central Railway Station, with 57 letters, has the longest name among all the railway stations in India. "Did you know that Chennai Central Railway Station boasts the longest name among all Indian railway stations," the post caption reads. According to Mathrubhumi.com, the station, which was initially known as Madras Central and later Chennai Central, was renamed Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M.G. Ramachandran Central Railway Station in 2019 after the Union government accepted the Tamil Nadu



AIADMK government's recommendation to rename the station in honour of the former Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran. It connects Chennai to several parts of Northern India, including Kolkata, Mumbai and Delhi, as well as other regions throughout the country. Also, it holds the NSG-1 category status under the Chennai division of the Southern Railway zone. Apart from this, the station serves as the primary terminus in the city and is among the busiest stations in Southern India. Previously, it was

Andhra Pradesh's Venkatanarasimharajuvaripeta Railway Station that held the title of having the longest Railway station name. It is noteworthy that Chennai's Puratchi Thalaivar Dr MG Ramachandran Central Railway station, also known as Chennai Central by the citizens of Tamil Nadu, lost its title of the World's Longest Railway Station Name in 2019. According to TOI, the Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerych wyrndrob wlllantysiliogogoch station in Wales, UK with a total count of 58 letters, currently holds the title of the World's Longest Railway Station Name. It is also listed in the Guinness Book of Records for being the destination with the longest name in the UK. Moreover, talking about the Indian Railways, the Howrah Junction located in West Bengal is the largest Railway station in India in terms of area and platforms. Established in 1854, the station boasts an extensive network of 23 platforms and 26 tracks.

