



Mahatma's vision of social unity and equality is the way forward: Murmu

MOTIHARI, OCT 19 /- President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday announced that the vision of social equality and unity shared by Mahatma Gandhi a century ago was still relevant for the country's march towards becoming a modern and developed nation.

Murmu made the remarks in her address at the first convocation ceremony of Mahatma Gandhi Central University at Motihari in East Champaran district of Bihar. The President, who spoke for less than 15 minutes, devoted a significant part of her speech to the 'Champaran Satyagraha', which saw Gandhi leading a passive resistance of indigo planters in the area, which soon taught the British colonial imagination and made the South Africa returned her a household name.

During the Champaran Satyagraha, Gandhi broke caste barriers, especially in relation to food. They cooked together and ate together. This social equality and unity which Gandhi inspired 106 years ago, "inspired the mighty British empire to bow down," said the president, who spoke in the presence of Governor Harendra Arora, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, among others.

"That vision of social equality and unity remains relevant. In modern times that should serve as the foundation on which we build a developed nation," she added. Murmu, who is the first person from the Scheduled Tribes to have been elected to the top constitutional post, also said that Gandhi used to encourage academic work focused on the Scheduled Tribes. She also recalled Gandhi's close friendship



President Droupadi Murmu at the first convocation ceremony of Mahatma Gandhi Central University at Motihari in East Champaran district of Bihar.

with Mahatma Gandhi, a brilliant and an ethnologist who settled in India and devoted his life to supporting the national movement and studying tribals of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh. Murmu also lauded the central university for encouraging students to become members of the Tharu tribes who inhabit the border region along Indo-Nepal border. She also paid rich tributes to the history of Champaran "which is home to many pillar objects of Empires."

All visitors to Bahadrapati Shwaha at Delhi headed the Ramprasad Bull Capital, which was found in West Champaran district and has been installed at the entrance of Durbar Hall," she said. The President also made a mention of the Vainanki Tiger Reserve situated in the state and the famous litchi grown in the area which are exported to far-off lands. She also said, "I am glad to learn that among top rankers in this year's examination, girls students account for a rise to 80 per cent. I see a bright future for the country when I find girls excelling in studies with confidence."

Gandhi was also a great votary of girls' education," (PTI)

Over 1,000 Himachal cops fell victim to cryptocurrency fraud, some quit jobs to promote it

SHIMLA, OCT 19 /- Over a thousand police personnel fell victim to a fake local cryptocurrency created by fraudsters in Himachal's Mandi district, an official said on Thursday.

A majority of the police personnel who invested in the fake cryptocurrency were duped of crores of rupees, but some of them made huge gains, became promoters of the scheme, and roped in more investors for it, according to investigators of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) constituted to probe the scam. According to police, at least one lakh people have been duped by the fraudsters in the cryptocurrency fraud, and 2.5 lakh IDs have been found which included multiple IDs of the same person. To get investors, the scammers launched two cryptocurrencies 'Korvio Coin' (or KRO) and DGT Coin and created fake websites with manipulated copies of the digital currencies. They lured the initial investors by promising them high returns in a short span of time. They also created a network of investors, who further expanded the chain within their own circles. Police, teachers and others got involved in the scheme for quick returns. Although a majority of the police personnel involved suffered losses, their promotion of the scheme created trust among the investors and gave credibility to the investment plan. Some policemen involved in the cryptocurrency scheme opted for voluntary retirement (VRS), and became promoters, a police official told PTI on Thursday on the condition of anonymity. "We will get all the wrongdoers. The investigation is progressing in an organised and planned manner," DGP Sanjay Kundu said. He added that all those involved in the scam will be dealt with strongly as per law. Cryptocurrency is a digital currency

designed to work as a medium of exchange through a blockchain-based computer network that is not dependent on any central authority, such as the government or bank to uphold or maintain it.

The scam started in 2018, with a majority of victims from Mandi, Jalandhar and Kangra districts. In certain cases, a single person roped in up to 1,000 people. The accused used a combination of misinformation, deception and threats to maintain control over their scheme and continue extracting money from unsuspecting investors by manipulating the cryptocurrency prices which led to huge financial losses to the victims, the police had earlier said. The cryptocurrency scammers approached people with an investment plan related to a locally made cryptocurrency known as Korvio Coin or KRO coins, and charged an initial activation fee for getting their accounts activated. Three to four kinds of cryptocurrency were used. The scammers built fake websites to list their coins and manipulated their prices. Later, they launched a new coin called 'DGT Coin'. After enough people had purchased these coins at a higher rate, the price was deliberately brought down causing massive financial losses to the investors.

The investigation also revealed that apart from cryptocurrency, other deposit schemes, such as a 10 per cent monthly return on a Rs 400 deposit, police added. Police have cautioned the general public to be careful if any scheme promises over 12 per cent annual returns. Two main accused Sukhdev and Komraj, who were earlier in the month arrested from Gujarat, confessed during interrogation that they have outstanding liabilities of Rs 400 crore. The alleged kingpin of the scam, Siddhu, is still at large. (PTI)

BRS not B-Team to BJP; Rahul Gandhi not leader, just reader': K T Rama Rao

HYDERABAD, OCT 19 /- Hitting back at AICC leader Rahul Gandhi for calling the ruling BJP as "B-Team" of BJP, Telangana Minister K T Rama Rao on Thursday said his party did not align with any outfit, but people think that Congress is a "C-Team, which stands for Chor team."

The BRS Working President also said Rahul Gandhi is not a leader, but a reader himself reading out a script provided to him by his party leaders. You are an MLA earlier, he said, saying you are B-Team of the BJP. We are not a B-Team. You are C-Team, Chor Team," he told reporters here. Rao sought to know why Gandhi did not go to

Gujarat during the assembly elections there and why his 'Hansraj Jodha Yatra' took a detour from Maharashtra. "What is his understanding (with BJP)?" he asked. Rahul Gandhi had not aligned with any outfit, but people think that Congress is a "C-Team, which stands for Chor team."

Taking on the Telangana PCC president Revanth Reddy, Rama Rao said the Congress chief was arrested when he was "to buy a vote from an MLA earlier. Referring to BRS's allegation of corruption to the tune of Rs 1,00,000 crore in an irrigation project built at a cost of Rs 80,000 crore, Rama Rao said either the

CMR completes clinical trials of world's injectable male contraceptive; study claims it's safe

NEW DELHI, OCT 19 /- The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has completed the clinical trials of the world's first injectable male contraceptive which showed that it is safe and highly efficacious without any serious side effects.

The findings of the phase-III clinical trial, which involved 300 candidates aged 25-40 years, were published in the International open access Andrology Journal last month. The open-labelled and non-randomized, multi-centre hospital-based phase-III clinical trials were carried out by five different centres (New Delhi, Udaipur, Ludhiana, Jaipur and Kharagpur) and coordinated by the ICMR, New Delhi. Permission to conduct phase-III clinical trial was granted by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) and approved by the Institutional ethical

committees of the respective centres. As part of the study, 300 healthy, sexually active and married men and their healthy and sexually active wives who came to the family planning clinic and department of urology or surgery for vasectomy or No Scalpel Vasectomy (NSV) were identified. The men were injected with 60 mg of Reversible Inhibition of Sperm Under Guidance (RISUG) "The overall efficacy of RISUG with respect to achieving and non-randomized, multi-centre hospital-based phase-III clinical trials were carried out by five different centres (New Delhi, Udaipur, Ludhiana, Jaipur and Kharagpur) and coordinated by the ICMR, New Delhi. Permission to conduct phase-III clinical trial was granted by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) and approved by the Institutional ethical

French Navy frigate pays goodwill visit to Mumbai

MUMBAI, OCT 19 /- Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command.

The Interactions focused on the India-France maritime cooperation as well as further participation of Indian Navy in US-led Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) in the Indian Ocean. (ALJINDR) He said, Personnel of the French and the Indian navies undertook professional exchanges through various visits and shared best practices. The visit also provided an opportunity for informal

interactions through social functions conducted during the ship's stay in Mumbai which included sports fixtures with Indian Navy personnel, the statement said. "This visit is expected to renew and strengthen the strategic partnership between the two nations that share similar concerns in overlapping areas of responsibility," it said. French Navy Ship Admiral Badier paid goodwill visit to Mumbai last year. (PTI)

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