



headway

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PATNA WOMEN'S COLLEGE

GROWTH TRIUMPHS

**Richa Narayan/Niharika/
Rakhi Sinha/Noopur Jha/Tanya**
Headway Newsroom

PATNA: 206/243. A staggering 85% was Mr Nitish Kumar's scorecard in the recently concluded Bihar Legislative Assembly elections, 2010. The vikas saga that the Chief Minister spun for his state, helped the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) coalition secure a record number of seats in the elections.

The change in Bihar in the past five years is too obvious to be missed. Mr Kumar's government had to start from below zero indeed. But his development mantra which focused on core areas like law and order, infrastructure and healthcare, demonstrated immediate and visible results.

Building of flyovers and roads is a common sight in most places of Bihar. Construction of over 10,500 km of roads, including 259 bridges, ensured better connectivity throughout the state. In fact, the Asian Development Bank acknowledged the roads of Bihar as one of the best in the country. With the arrest of over 50,000 absconders, speedy trials in more than 1.5 lakh cases including 2,000 life imprisonments, the frequency of criminal incidences across the state has reduced remarkably.

Mr Kumar's attempts to improve law and order situation assured the business class to invest in Bihar. The state has always been rich in human resource. The only need was to educate them to

create a trained and competent workforce in the state which Mr Kumar rightly identified and Bihar witnessed a simultaneous growth of trade, industries and trained labour force.

The state which once recorded the lowest growth rate in the country now ranks second, only after Gujarat, flaunting a growth rate of 11.34%. A joint report of World Bank and International Finance Corporation has recommended Patna as the second most favourable place for starting trade and commerce practices after Delhi. In fact, the state has pending proposals worth more than ₹38,000 crore lined up in sectors of ethanol and power generation.

His social engineering has ensured that the development policies reached not only the top notch but the impoverished and subjugated as well. Lali Mandal, a housemaid from Darbhanga, happily announces to have been clicked along with her family for enlisting in the BPL list. She is now getting 10 kg of wheat and kerosene oil every month, attributing to which she doesn't feel like working any more as a housemaid. She tutors her kids, especially her daughter to enroll her in school under the Balika Cycle Yojna.

Mr Kumar, soon after his record victory, emphasised that his renewed term is again going to be about good governance. Besides completing his unfinished agendas, the foremost task for him would be to complete building Brand Bihar. The challenges before the government are far from over. Institution

building, strengthening of existing institutions, uninterrupted power supply and turning the state into destination for investment are the major challenges.

While agriculture has shown progress, seed replacement, optimal use of fertilisers, activities to improve farm et cetera needs to be encouraged. Another major problem is to deal with bureaucratic obstinacy in programme implementation. Accelerating the rollout of UID, revamping the public distribution system and direct cash transfer for anti-poverty schemes can make a decisive difference. Administrative reforms need to be deeper and credibly felt.

In his previous term as Chief Minister, Mr Kumar set a benchmark of development. With this sweeping victory, his government now faces innumerable expectations of the people and the challenge to fulfill it for the second time now. In his words, I am not going to look left or right. I want to use this opportunity to make Bihar a developed state by 2015.



Lady luck works wonders

Richa Narayan/Noopur Jha
Headway Newsroom

One of the most intriguing facts about the Bihar State Assembly elections 2010 was the massive 10% increase in the number of women voters. Deputy

Chief Minister Mr Sushil Kumar Modi stated that the level of participation of women in the elections indicates a revolution as potent as the JP movement of 1974. Down the line this established women as a powerful vote bank in Bihar. In fact in several areas women outnumbered male voters.

A functioning state provides security for women allowing them to move without fear, ensures better facilities for health and improved possibilities in school enrolment. NDA government under the leadership of Mr Nitish Kumar successfully launched many development schemes for women. Schemes like Balika Poshak Yojna, Balika Cycle Yojna and Akshar

Aanchal Yojna promoted female literacy. While programmes like 'Meena manch', and 'Hunar' encouraged women to channelise their patent handicrafts and earn a living out of it. In addition to this, 50% reservation for women in the panchayati raj institutions also ensured the participation of women in the administrative process.

A better law and order situation in the state is as important for women empowerment as is the implementation of development schemes. Mr Kumar talks about his good governance and why not? After all who could have imagined five years ago in Bihar, girls roaming about freely on wheels after 7 pm.

Many development schemes for women launched by Mr Nitish Kumar helped NDA retain power in the state



Post-clean sweep, what lies ahead...

THE ROADMAP FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS AS LISTED IN THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE GOVERNMENT OF BIHAR:

ROAD CONSTRUCTION

The state road construction department (RCD) has undertaken the work of widening the existing state highways from single lane carriage way into two-lane carriage way and strengthening of the existing two-lane roads. The Bihar State Highways Project (BSHP) aims to strengthen and rehabilitate the deteriorated state roads and upgrade some newly declared state roads. Nine sub-projects for 826 kilometres of roads are selected for which detailed design of all alignments have been completed.

ELECTRICITY

By 2009, 2,600 villages in Vaishali and Muzaffarpur districts have been electrified. Under the Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana, 340 villages are being electrified. To take up cent per cent of the electrification in the state, the state government has entered into a quadripartite agreement with Rural Electrification Corporation (REC), BSEB and the Government of India power sector undertakings of Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) and National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC).

INDUSTRY

The cotton mills at Pandaul and Siwan, which have been shut down, would soon be restarted, and also the work for the jute park at Katihar is likely to be concluded by April 2011. Projects have also been submitted for establishment of new sugar complex in Bihar with a proposed estimate of ₹3,605.92 crore. There are also proposals for capacity expansion of working sugar mills in Bihar with a proposed expenditure of ₹762.72 crore. This will surely generate employment in the state.

AGRICULTURE

Two strategies have been adopted for increasing agriculture production. Delivery systems to make available quality seeds, pesticides and extension system to farmers are also being strengthened. The area has good potential of growing good quality fruits and vegetables. By adopting scientific methods of production, making best use of agricultural labour force and by using proper post-harvest technology at farm/village level, the production of horticultural crops can be increased manifold.

HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

The state plans to run eight nutritional rehabilitation centres (NRC) either through the District Health Society or via qualified NGOs/welfare organisations. These centres will be important to address acute malnutrition among children needing residential care and medical treatment. However, considering the major challenge of acute malnutrition in Bihar, which is 8.3%, corresponding to 2.5 million pre-school children, a special care and feeding for children would be promoted through NRC services during the scaling process.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

The Department of Mass Communication has brought out the second issue of the annual Lab Journal 'Headway'. Due to their immense enthusiasm and the ardent wish to display their creative talents, the BMC-III 2008-2011 Batch has ventured to give it a new look and an additional four pages.



Dr. Sister Doris D'Souza A.C.
Principal
Patna Women's College

We at Patna Women's College, with our College motto "Always Wise" instill in our students the passion for hard work, dedication and excellence. May our students uphold truth and follow the path through wisdom, and help make this world a better place to live in.

I congratulate the Head of the Department, Ms Shampa Sharma, staff and students for striving together to make the second issue of the BMC Journal 'Headway' appreciable.

May God bless your efforts and goodwill.

EDITOR'S NOTE

It gives me a great sense of pleasure and achievement in stating that Headway, from an infant last year, has taken an avid shape of a professional journal this year. From four to eight pages, imaginative to real stories, Headway has seen it all in just one year. A giant leap of sorts, indeed.



Ms Shampa Sharma,
Head of the Department

When this journal was launched last year, it earned appreciation from all quarters for its unique approach and contents. This inspired the current group of BMC-III students to come up with a more mature, interesting and eye catching creation.

Live interviews, elucidation on some burning issues plaguing the society, current affairs, statistics, graphics and cartoons have contributed in enhancing the worthy readability of the journal.

When the 2010-11 session began a year ago, chalking out a concrete plan for the journal was the top most priority. There was a stiff competition amongst the students to constitute and cement a place in the editorial team. The arduous task of selection from 65 spirited students, filtered through a written test, enabled formation of a core group of 11 students to give a new direction to Headway.

Nine student editors took the responsibility of eight pages under the supervision of two chief student editors – Vithika Salomi and Naila Manal. Reporting and graphic teams were also formed simultaneously.

Ideas were shared in the classroom when it came to selecting stories for each page. Questions were formulated for all the live interviews after exhaustive in house discussions. Since it was an election year, we also decided to devote our prime front page to the revolution being witnessed in Bihar under the inspiring leadership of Mr Nitish Kumar.

The inside pages were also planned after hectic discussions with students. Since, the number of pages was doubled this year, we decided to devote each page to a different topic ranging from fashion to sports and international to local.

If innovation was the buzzword this year, Headway aims to grow by leaps and bounds in the years to come.

Bihar now brand conscious



Graphics: Vithika Salomi

**Naila Manal/
Vithika Salomi**
Headway Newsroom

PATNA: The last few years have seen the Patnaites becoming more brand conscious. The reason being the arrival of branded outlets sprouting in every other street in Patna.

It's not just the youth who have become more fashion conscious, even the not so young people prefer 'brand labels' over 'price tags' these days. Be it jeans or kurtas, cell-phones or wrist watches or even hair styling to make up, branded shops have mushroomed everywhere.

While one major reason that attracts big names to Bihar is its potential infrastructure development and considerable reduction in the crime rate, another important reason is that people are

ready to spend. Their purchasing power has increased and they are more than eager to go for brands.

The 'potential metro city' of Patna is growing big time in terms of fashion and the target consumers of these branded shops are the college-goers and school students. Even ethnic clothes created by famous designers have found market in Patna.

Today, Patna prides itself to have outlets of Levis, Reebok, Lee, Wrangler, Killer, Puma, Flying Machine, fabindia, mufti et cetera giving a huge option to those up for some stylish outfits. Even kids can choose from branded outlets of Lilliput, Puppet and Ginny and Jony.

From cell phone brands such as Blackberry and Nokia to automobile showrooms of Chevrolet, Ford and Mahindra

Patnaites have a lot to pick from. For foodies too, Patna offers a wide range including Kapil's Eleven, Dosa Plaza, Momo Station, Smokin' Joe's, Yo! China, Baskin-Robbins and the latest addition to it is Domino's Pizza.

The fashion freaks in Patna can use the services of Habib's Hair Expresso, VLCC, Shahnaz Hussain's parlours and Chandan Sparsha Spa. Apart from these the city has outlets of Titan Eye+, Tanishq, Planet M, The Mobile Store and a long list follows.

Over the past few years many brands have been attracted to Bihar. And with the malls coming up, brands like KFC, McDonald's, Pizza Hut, Café Coffee Day, Prada, Gucci, Volkswagen et cetera are just round the corner.

Choices galore for weekend fun



Sonal, Survi Sahay and Nisha Rani
Headway Newsroom

PATNA: What to do in the weekends? A very common thought that crosses the minds of all Patnaites frequently. If you are waiting for some good outing spots to open up, your wish is fulfilled. Of late, Patna is offering some nice spots where one can spend some peaceful hours with their loved ones.

Floating Restaurant: The Floating Restaurant or the 'Ganga Vihar' is a novel and perfectly rejuvenating experience, for people interested in scenic beauty. Inaugurated by Chief Minister Mr Nitish Kumar, it offers a cruise down the river Ganga.

The restaurant welcomes visitors from 4 p.m. The luxury yacht has a seating capacity of 75 and 48 persons can dine at a time. This yacht has a bar and a recreation room, as well. A vegetarian meal at Ganga Vihar Restaurant can be bought for ₹350 while a non-vegetarian meal costs ₹500. The cruise takes one on a voyage on a payment of ₹75 for about 45 minutes. The cruise sails upstream to the Collectorate Ghat, turns to Gandhi Setu and then anchors back. The restaurant can also be hired on rent for marriage ceremonies, birthday parties or engagements for ₹20,000 for four hours. A perfect mixture of fun and food, the cruise is especially beautiful at the twilight when one can see the sunset.

Buddha Smriti Park: If meditation and peace are your preferences on a weekend, Buddha Smriti Park is the right place to visit. This park, located near the Patna Railway Junction and spread over 22 acres of prime land is the place to go for some spirituality.

Dalai Lama, the Tibetan spiritual leader, inaugurated this park on 27 May 2010, to mark Buddha Purnima. The idea behind this park was to commemorate the 2,554th birth anniversary of Gautam Buddha.



The inauguration was an international event, attended by delegates from different Buddhist countries like Sri Lanka, Burma, Japan and Thailand. These delegates brought consecrated Buddha urns and gifts, which were kept in the memorial park by the Dalai Lama.

The main attraction in the park is a sapling of the Mahabodhi tree from Sri Lanka. Popularly believed that Lord Buddha got enlightenment under this tree in Bodhi Gaya, the branch of the original Mahabodhi tree is believed to have been taken to Anuradhapura in Sri Lanka by Emperor Ashoka's son, Mahendra.

Revolving Restaurant: If you are dreaming to have a good meal with a 360 degrees view of the city, the 'Revolving Restaurant' atop the multi-storied Biscamaun Tower is the place to be. Located on the western end of Gandhi Maidan, this restaurant gives a multidimensional view of the sprawling city below.

Inaugurated by Chief Minister Mr Nitish Kumar, the biggest attraction of this restaurant is a view of the river Ganga that it offers from the 18th floor. A heavy machine of 5 HP is employed to rotate this large structure.

The restaurant remains operational between 12 noon to 4 pm and 6 pm to 11 pm. Hosting a Punjabi ambience, the restaurant offers both vegetarian and non-vegetarian Indian cuisines, by experienced chefs. Being a great combination of technology and hospitality, it is a must visit for those wanting to witness something new.



Gates opens gates for healthcare



Mr Gates in a Bihar village.

Madhup Madhumita
Headway Newsroom

PATNA: One of the world's richest men, Mr Bill Gates arrived in a tiny village in Bihar's Khagaria district on May 12, 2010. His purpose was to research the need and viability of large scale immunisation programmes in rural Bihar. Though Mr Gates' Microsoft does not have its brand recognition in the villages of Bihar, his 'affable attitude' made him popular among the villagers.

Reflecting on various welfare programmes, Mr Gates said, "The idea that we can provide thousands of vaccines in these remote areas, and that they can save the lives of hundreds of children, is very exciting to us." He added that he will also discuss and estimate the cost of his health initiative project for the state with the chief minister.

In Patna, a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) was signed between Bihar government and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for improvement in maternal, new born and child health sector in the state. Chief Minister Mr Nitish Kumar said, "Mr Gates made an effort to visit such remote areas...it is a good thing." Mr Kumar also presented a memento to Mr Gates after signing the MoC. Mr Kumar said he was looking forward to the foundation's cooperation on various issues, including integrated child development system.

CM reiterates special status demand

Noopur Jha
Headway Newsroom

PATNA: Chief Minister Mr Nitish Kumar met Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh, Union Home Minister Mr P Chidambaram and deputy chairman of Planning Commission Mr Montek Singh Ahluwalia on the sidelines of an internal security meeting in New Delhi on February 2. He made a strong plea for grant of special category status to Bihar. The demand for special status is in view of the state's backwardness in almost every respect, especially economy.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Kumar said corruption and inflation were directly related with the internal security of the nation. He said this would lead to problems like naxalism which is the biggest threat to India's internal security today. "A system of governance in which the needy receive support would check naxalism", the CM quoted as saying. He added that growth of corruption would pave the way for anti-Congress shift. However, he evaded the question about prime-ministership.

Mr Kumar apprised the PM about the drought-like situation in Bihar and invited him to visit the state. The PM expressed concern over frequent droughts in the state and fall of water level causing scarcity of drinking water in certain regions. Mr Kumar said he expects more support and cooperation from the Centre for the development of Bihar.

The CM demanded that the Centre should bear 90% of the expenditure instead of the 65:35 ratio, on implementation of Right to Education (RTE) Act. He said that the Bihar government spends about ₹5,000 crore annually on elementary education and that the Centre should bear 90% of the additional ₹26,000 crore needed for the implementation of the Act. He also requested the PM to direct the external affairs ministry to expedite the process of establishing the proposed Nalanda International University.

Mr Kumar urged the PM to pave way for establishment of the proposed JPNALIMS (Jaya Prakash Narayan All India Institute of Medical Sciences) in

CHIEF MINISTER'S WISHLIST

- Special category status to Bihar
- Central assistance of ₹6,573.45 crore for drought
- Expeditious implementation of National Highway Development Project-3 in Bihar and reimbursement of ₹970 crore to the state for maintenance of NH
- Presidential assent to amendment of Bihar sugarcane (purchase and supply) Regulation Act, 1981 and withdrawal of the sugarcane controllers
- Coal linkage for power projects
- Speedy construction of AIIMS-like institute in Patna



- Central University at Motihari
- Upgradation of Sri Krishna Medical College and Hospital at Muzaffarpur
- Establishment of Nalanda International University
- Share 90% of cost for implementation of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act

Patna. He also pleaded upgradation of Sri Krishna Medical College Hospital at Muzaffarpur under the Prime Minister's Swasthya Suraksha Yojna and establishment of a central insti-

tute for a degree course in paramedical sciences. He requested the PM to direct the Union HRD ministry to approve the site at Motihari for the proposed Central University.

Experts, students flay CBSE scheme

Noopur Jha / Naila Manal / Vithika Salomi / Shalini
Headway Newsroom

PATNA: A round table meeting was held in Patna on December 20, 2010 to discuss the merits of Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE), introduced recently by Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). It was organised by the Centre for Applied Sociology. Continuous and comprehensive evaluation refers to periodic and regular assessment of the students.

However, government representatives, teachers and students present in the meeting raised serious doubts over the success of this grading system.

Principal Secretary, Human Resource Development, government of Bihar, Mr Anjani Kumar Singh, said the new system of evaluation introduced by CBSE last year was ahead of its time and difficult to implement in states like Bihar.

Mr Sanjay Jha, MLC, Bihar said, "The intent of the new system is good and in places like Delhi, it is bringing about positive changes. But it is very difficult to implement it in states like Bihar where a large number of schools operate in rural environment."

When a student of mass communication, Patna Women's College, Vithika Salomi, expressed concern over lack of



university teachers for vocational courses in various colleges, on which Mr Anjani Singh said that the government had identified 50 colleges in the state and efforts were on to make them centres for excellence. He also highlighted the glaring challenges that the

system here faces including skewed teacher-student ratio in schools, which requires attention. He, however, added that the teacher-student ratio in Bihar has improved from 1:100 in the past to 1:52 presently.

Book fair: Many takers for competition books



Visitors throng book fair venue in Patna.

Grace Jasmine Jolliffe/ Archana Kumari
Headway Newsroom

PATNA: The 18th Patna Book Fair commenced with the motto of 'Right to education with emphasis'. The 12-day fair, organised by the Centre of Readership Development (CRD), was inaugurated by Chief Minister Mr Nitish Kumar on December 9, 2010.

The book fair has become an annual attraction for the book lovers in Bihar. "Overall we did a good busi-

ness this year. We have been coming here for the past five years, and every time the response is better than before", said Ashok Shukla of Rajpal and Sons Publication.

This year, the main attractions of the book fair were various competitive entrance examination books. But apart from the conventional course books, people showed inclination towards biographies of Adolf Hitler, APJ Abdul Kalam, Nitish Kumar, Benazir Bhutto et cetera. Spiritual books like *Bhagwat*

Gita were also sold in good numbers. "We have sold over 300 copies of Taslima Nasreen's famous book *LAJJA*, and around 2,500 *OSHO* books," said the owner of Diamond Pocket Books.

Another attraction in the book fair was the various cultural programmes. Students from different schools and colleges participated in the dance, essay and spelling competitions.

Anisha Sehgal, a class VIII student and classical dancer says, "It is like any other stage

to showcase your talent; it gives you a platform with a bigger crowd and competition; and you also get awards to add to your achievements."

Special screening of documentaries and films made by Prakash Jha like *Katha Madhupur Ki* and *Damul* were also arranged. "These documentaries, short films and skits, with a pinch of emotional satire, act as an eye opener to the society," says a member of Nirman Kala Manch.

Showtime for Bihar actors



Sonakshi Sinha

Headway Newsroom
PATNA: With talents from Bihar storming show business, it seems the big, as well as the small screen is finally opening up to Bihar. From Kumkum to Sonakshi Sinha and Ratan Rajput to Neha Sargam, Bihar has always contributed to the entertainment world.

Kumkum, a veteran film actor from Bihar, has made her presence felt in almost 115 films. Best known for her roles in *Mother India*, *Mr X in Bombay*, *Naya Daur*, *Shreeman Funtoosh*, et cetera she paired with many great actors of her era, like Kishore Kumar and Dilip Kumar. Though being one of the first in the line of actors from the state, she is not the only one. Today, young and talented girls from Bihar like Sonakshi Sinha, Neetu Chandra and Neha Sharma are making their mark in the Hindi film industry like never before.

Sonakshi Sinha, who debuted in

Bollywood blockbuster *Dabangg*, holds her Bihari roots and culture to a great extent. Though she was born and brought up in Mumbai, she is proud to be a Bihari like her father, the veteran actor and politician Shatrughan Sinha. She dreams to put Patna and Bihar on the world map through her work. She is looking forward to a better career in Bollywood.

Neetu Chandra was born and brought up in Patna. She did her schooling from Notre Dame Academy. Neetu made her debut with the movie *Garam Masala* starring Akshay Kumar and John Abraham. Her performance was best noticed in Madhur Bhandarkar's movie *Traffic Signal*.

The presence of Bihar in the television industry is not untouched. Bihari actors have contributed considerably through their work in the TV world.

Ratan Rajput, better known as Laali in the Indian soap *Agle Janam*

Mohe Bitiya Hi Kijo, is from Patna. She has also worked in another serial named *Radha Ki Betiyan Kuch Kar Dikhayengi*. A Magadh Mahila College student, she was interested in acting and was connected with theatre, since her graduation days. She later went to Mumbai.

Deepali Kishore of the Indian Idol fame joined the acting brigade through the serial *Badki Malkin* on Mahua TV channel where she plays the lead role. She has studied in Mt. Carmel School and later in Patna Women's College. She has learnt classical music for five years and was one of the four finalists of Indian Idol. Currently, she is studying in Mumbai for Bachelors in Media Studies.

A new face from Patna, Neha Sargam is the lead in *Chanda Chupa Badal Mein* on Star Plus. Neha had participated in the auditions for Indian Idol 4, but destiny had stored something else for her. A well-wisher uploaded the auditions on Youtube

where she was noticed and called for the role. Aspiring for MBA after having completed her graduation from Patna Women's College in Advertisement and Sales Promotion and Marketing, she is a household name today.

Apart from the many female actors coming from Bihar there are a number of male actors from the state too. From Manoj Bajpai to the new kid on the block Luv Sinha (son of Shatrughan Sinha), Bihar has produced many talented actors and is still continuing to do so.

Adhyayan Suman, son of Bollywood actor Shekhar Suman, debuted in the Bollywood film industry with *Haal-e-Dil*. He has also worked in movies like *Raaz*, *the mystery continues* and *Jashnn* and is well known for his Bihari roots.

With so many actors adding up to the list from Bihar, it is well established that there is no dearth of talent in the state. And the Bihar stars are surely shining bright.

Natha live and exclusive

Omkar Das Manikpuri, better known as 'Natha' of *Peepli Live* talks about his first break, Aamir Khan and his career ahead in an interview with the Headway reporters Naila Manal, Sheeba Parwez, Yasha Lal, Shalini, Alisha Naveen.

People have known you as 'Natha'. Who are you in real life?

My real life is far-far different from my reel life character. I am a simple person coming from the theatres.

How did you get a break in *Peepli Live*?

I am a theatre artist originally from Bhilai, Chhattisgarh. My acting career started from 'Naya Theatre', Bhopal. I was first noticed in a play and then called to audition for a role in *Peepli Live* to be directed by Anushka Rizvi. I gave the auditions, met Aamir Khan and was finalised for the role.

How was the experience of working with Aamir Khan?

Aamir Khan is a very simple person. No stary tantrums and very down to earth. It was a very good experience to work with him.

Your film has got numerous accolades and was expected to be India's entry to the Oscars in the

Best Foreign Film category. How do you feel?

I was hoping this film to actually go into the Oscars. It was a great honour and a very happy feeling that my first film was going to the Oscars.

Being from theatres, how different was working in movies?

Theatre and films are two different media. Films are more technical. Theatre is live, where what you do is done in front of the audience and you cannot correct it. Films, on the other hand, are shot in parts where errors can be corrected. Theatre lets the character do more; as for example, to do a murder scene in a play you just need a little blood and a knife, whereas in a film you can actually show the murder or killing with a gun, sound of gun shot as well as the wound.

So, what are you going to do next?

I am getting offers for some more movies. The next in line is *Alaap* by the Shankaracharya College.



Fashion fever strikes

Grace/Mahashraveta/Shayna

Headway Newsroom
PATNA: Fashion has never been steady; time and again the trends keep changing. Till a few years back, Patna was not considered a fashionable city, but now the people are not only fashion conscious, but they also like to keep themselves up-to-date with the latest trends world-wide.

Earlier, only *salwaar-suits* and *saris* were preferred by women, but now they are more into western outfits. Youngsters generally give preference to clothes that are comfortable as well as stylish, therefore *harem pants*, *lungi pants*, capris and of course, skin fit jeans are in.

"Nowadays everyone wants to look good, and right selection of clothes can boost one's personality", says Namrata Ranjan, a third year student of Magadh Mahila College. "It makes you presentable and helps you carry yourself around with confidence", she adds.

"At the moment, short and bright coloured T-shirts with interesting quotes and loose fitting low-waist jeans are in vogue. Wear them with shades and tag it with some cool accessories and it is bound to turn heads," says Ravish Arya, a student.

Fashion in Patna is not only limited to western or casual outfits. During festive season, the demand for ethnic wear rises.



Festivals have always been a time to dress up. "Traditional attires like *salwaar-kameez* and *saris* of latest designs are preferred most during festivals. Most of them are inspired by movies and TV serials", says the owner of Anushka Boutique, at the Maharaja Kameshwar shopping complex.

Ethnic wears for men comprise a combination of interesting fabrics, vibrant colours and latest embroi-

deries. Shilpi Modi of Manyavar, a premium ethnic men's wear brand, says "Apart from the usual cotton and silk, *jaamewar* and *brocade* are being used as ethnic wear." Besides the festive season, men also prefer *kurtas* for daily wear.

Ashish Kumar, a student of B.Sc. second year likes to don coloured *kurtas* which he teams up with a pair of jeans. "It comes at really affordable prices, and khadi *kurtas* are both comfortable and in fashion too," adds Nikhil, another student.

Short *kurtis* are also very popular at the moment. *Dupattas* have been replaced by stoles. Accessories like bangles and sunglasses have become very popular. If you are shopping for accessories, then Maurya Lok is the place to be. Bags, earrings, shades, belts, foot wears, etc, everything can be found here. "College girls become economical when it comes to foot wears and bags," says a shop owner in the Maurya Lok Complex.

Boring Road, Fraser Road, Maurya Lok, Maharaja Kameshwar Complex, Patliputra Colony and Kankarbagh are some of the most preferred shopping destinations for the fashion freaks in the city as large number of branded outlets and boutiques are located there.

Bihar Kokila speaks

Padmashree Sharda Sinha is one of the celebrity figures in Bihar's folk music industry. In an interview with Headway reporter Yasha Lal, she reveals her journey to success.

Headway Newsroom

What is Sharda Sinha in her real life?

Well I am the HoD of music department in Women's College, Samastipur. I had a passion for singing since childhood. Later my father encouraged me to take up professional training from my Guraji. I am also trained in Manipuri dance.

How did your career start?

My career started in 1971 when my folk songs in Maithili were recorded for HMV studio. These were traditional wedding songs which became an instant hit. I have also sung Bhojpuri, Maithili and Bajika songs. My hard work finally paid off and I received three National awards - the Padmashree Award (1991), Natak Academy Award (2002) and Rashtriya Devi Ahilya Samman Award (2006).

Did you face any difficulty while taking up this career?

I come from an orthodox family. Initially my father supported me a lot, and now my husband backs my dreams. My daughter Vandana, a PWC pass out, is also interested in taking up music as a career and we all support her.

How did Rajshri productions happen?



In 1983, my songs were released along with L.P record of eight songs of Vidyapati from HMV Studio. When Tarachand Barjatya, father of Suraj Barjatya heard it, he loved it so much that he approached me and I immediately agreed to it.

When will we next hear you?

You will hear me next in Nitin Chandra's Bhojpuri movie *Deswa* releasing in January. I have also signed a movie with Anurag Kashyap.

Now, big screen on Rashmi Desai's radar

Rashmi Desai, better known as Tapasya of *Uttaran*, is now looking forward to make it big in Bollywood. Following is an excerpt of telephonic talks between Desai and Headway reporter Sheeba Parwez.



Tell me a little about yourself.

I'm a Gujarati, brought up in Mumbai. My first break on small screen was *Pari Hoon Main* on Star One, followed by *Meet Mila De Rabba* on Sony TV and *Uttaran* on Colors. I've also done cameos in *Sshh...Phir Koi Hai*, *Comedy Circus*, *Zara Nach Ke Dikha*, *Crime Patrol*, *Big Money* and *Kitchen Champion Season 2*. I'm a very understanding person and I know my responsibilities.

How did you get your first break in Bhojpuri Cinema?

It all started when I was learning classical dance from Mr Kanu Mukherjee. He is a very well known choreographer. It was he who asked me

if I was interested in doing films and I said "okay, I will try." It has been a nice experience working in Bhojpuri films.

Is there any similarity between Rashmi Desai and Tapasya?

No, not at all. Tapasya and Rashmi both are diametrically opposite to each other. Initially, I was apprehensive playing a negative character, but now I love it. Even the audiences are appreciating my work on screen.

How well do you get along with your co-star Ichcha?

We are very good friends and have a lot of fun on the sets. I'm very talkative and it's difficult to stop me once I start. We are enjoying ourselves in *Uttaran*.

Do you have any connection from Bihar as you have done so many Bhojpuri films?

So far I had no friend in Bihar. But now I have one friend there, and she is Sheeba Parwez.

How do you like to spend your free time?

When I am not shooting, I like to go shopping and spend time with my family and friends. I also like watching movies, listening to music, cooking and dancing. I like going on long drives too. Basically, I like to keep myself busy.

When are you expected to be seen in Hindi movies?

Bollywood projects are in the pipeline. You will see me on the big screen very soon, may be after *Uttaran*.

WORLD SINGS 'JAI HO' WITH RAHMAN

Shruti Sinha

Headway Newsroom
PATNA: A.R Rahman's 'Journey Home World Tour' which kicked off in June 2010, in New York covering 16 major cities of the world was a major musical event.

It started with New York followed by cities like Chicago, Washington D.C, Birmingham, London, and finally ended its journey in South Africa. Durban, Johannesburg, and Cape Town in South Africa were the final destination of this grand musical event.

This event by the music maestro became more special with the involvement of the celebrated creative director Ammy Zinkham. The announcement of this event came, after Rahman took part in the 2010 remake of *We are the world*, to benefit the Haiti Earthquake victims.

PATNA ROCKS AND ROLLS

Madhup Madhumita/ Alisha Naveen

Headway Newsroom
PATNA: Shaimak Davar, the guru of modern contemporary dance brought the magic of dance to the residents of Patna through a dance fest recently organised in the city.

Swapnil and Ashmi were the two instructors, from Mumbai who tutored the patnaites to shake their legs. The trainers conducted dance classes at the Shagun Hall premises from 9th August to 24th August 2010. This Dance fest made not only youngsters but also the not-so-young to join the camp.

Patna hosted the *Bacardi Megamix Night* with celebrated DJ Suketu, in an event organised by, Wizcraft International Entertainment. More than 100 people attended the event, which celebrates the fine art of mixing with music, dance and Bacardi drinks, on 22-24 August 2010. The event was organised at Hotel Ashoka Patliputra.

A trip to ‘Pearl of the Orient’ ‘Reader’s Digest not a glamour magazine’

Sheeba Parwez / Shilpi / Leena Basak
Headway Newsroom

As a part of the curriculum, the third year students of the Department of Mass Communication of Patna Women's College, this year headed to Goa for the educational tour. Known for its Gothic churches, coconut groves, great carnivals and vast natural expanse of beaches, Goa is one of the most popular holiday destinations in India.

Goa is much more than just beaches and sea. It is blessed with fabulous weather, magnificent scenic beauty and architectural splendor of its churches. It has a soul, which goes deep into Goa's unique history and culture. Goa has a distinctive lifestyle quite different from the rest of India.

Besides taking in the beauty of the place, we also visited the following institutions:

Doordarshan Kendra, Goa, where the students learnt about various procedures of production and transmission of TV signals. The major technical operations are executed through Master switcher room and Production control room, consisting of devices like vision mixer, audio mixer and Character Generator. The DD personnel were very warm and welcoming and provided us with important inputs.

We also visited the studio where the recording and shooting takes place. CS Bhavre, the director of Doordarshan Kendra, Goa, said "There is space to seat more than 100 people in the new studio. This gives us enough space to record interactions and it definitely improves the quality of our programme."

After Doordarshan, we had an



BMC students and faculty during their recent visit to Doordarshan Kendra, Goa.

PLACES OF INTEREST

- Basilica of Bom Jesus, which contains the tomb and mortal remains of St. Francis Xavier, who was given the task of spreading Christianity among the subjects of the Portuguese colonies in the East.
- Se Cathedral, which is larger than any church in Portugal.
- Dona Paula, where the tourists can enjoy the sun and buy seaside goods from local vendors. This beach has been the location for many Indian movies, the most famous being *Ek Duje Ke Liye*.
- We also enjoyed a beach-walk from the Baga beach to the Calangute beach.

interaction with the Editor and Executive Editor of the Navhind Times, which is a widely read English newspaper of Goa.

We visited the Science Centre, which provides a perfect ambience for exploring science through hands-on expositions. Here, we watched a

3-D movie show, which was the icing on the cake.

It goes without saying that everything in this carnival state is simply charismatic and left us spellbound. Goa has given us innumerable fascinating moments to cherish throughout our lifetime

IN THE CITY OF DREAMS

Priya Prasad
Headway Newsroom

Pristine beaches, Indianized burgers (*vada pav*), cosmopolitan culture and much more make Mumbai, a happening city. A visit to Mumbai was a dream-fulfilling experience for the BMC 2008-11 batch. Passing through the sky scraping buildings we began our Mumbai trip with a visit to the Films Division, Mumbai that holds more than 8,000 titles on documentaries, short films and animation films in its archives. We visited different technical departments and got to learn the process of editing and animation. The students also got to learn how audio and video are synchronized. Handling a professional camera worth ₹3 Crore was overwhelming for the students.

A 90 minute talk with Mr Mohan Sivanand, Editor-in-chief of Readers Digest's was a lifetime opportunity for the BMC students.

Apart from the educational element, we also had fun clicking photographs at the Gateway of India and Hotel Taj and an evening stroll down the Marine Drive popularly known as the *queen's necklace* as it is strung with glittering street lights like a strand of jewels.

‘Reader’s Digest not a glamour magazine’

An interactive session between Mr Mohan Sivanand and the BMC students, revealed a lot of unknown facts about Reader's Digest and also of his journey. The session as reminisced by Headway reporters Noopur Jha and Naila Manal.

When questioned about how RD got its name, Mr Sivanand said that RD is anything that 'Readers' can 'Digest'. It was only after RD was named, that the term 'Digest' became synonymous with magazines.

Does RD improvise according to readers?

Though the readers are usually happy with RD, at times we do improvise for the readers when we find it necessary. Giving in to a reader's suggestion once, I cropped my picture to a passport size in the editorial.

Does RD customise for India?

Although RD is a global magazine, almost all the articles are customized for the Indian Edition. RD basically comprises of human interest stories so they are accepted the way they are. But sometimes, the anecdotes are altered, so that the Indian readers can identify with it.

How are stories selected?

There is no rule for this. But there's always a touching human interest story put next to the Editor's note. Stories pour in from all over the world and the Editorial can be really spontaneous at times. So there is basically no pre-planning of next issues.

Why no film stars for RD?

RD is not supposed to be an overtly glamorous magazine, real life heroes are celebrities for RD, as opposed to the Film magazines. In fact, once I interviewed an Indian female Film Actor, but eventually it



Mr Mohan Sivanand

was replaced by a story of an ordinary woman as it was more thought provoking than the interview.

Who is RD's closest competitor?

RD in itself is one of a kind. However, some famous media houses tried to put up competition for RD though they eventually died out, as they began sensationalizing to catch the eyeballs. As far as India is concerned, the readership has been consistent throughout.

What are your future plans for RD?

I am looking forward to retire next year (laughs). But RD has achieved a considerable position in the Indian market with a good number of committed readers. Instead of growing, I'd rather like to see RD sustain.

A trip to exotic islands of India

Vithika Salomi
Headway Newsroom

If you love the sea, then the island destinations of India would prove to be a picture-perfect holiday spot for you.

The Andaman and Nicobar islands is an absolute tropical paradise. Port Blair, its capital, houses the famous Cellular Jail. A 'sound-and-light show' in the evenings, depicts the history of this jail. Nearby tourist spots, such as the Haveloc, the Ross Island, Viper Island, Jolly Buoy, North Bay Island et cetera are a blend of both the ethnic and the modern, where one can experience the beauty of the seas. Visiting the 'live' mud-volcano and the spooky limestone caves can be tiring, but is often rewarded by a glimpse of the remote *Jarawa* tribe (almost extinct).

Spectacular is the word that strikes you, when the Lakshadweep Islands come into view. Situated in the Arabian Sea, it is much more than a few tiny dots on the map of India. For those a bit adventurous, water sports which includes scuba diving, snorkelling, surfing, yachting, skiing boats et cetera provides an out of the world experience.

Remember to click lots of photographs to treasure those beautiful memories, because unless you have some divine power, this is probably the closest to heaven you can get.

Pleasant Paris

Shampa Sharma / Eman Hasan
Headway Newsroom

NEW DELHI (INDE) 6600km. You proudly spot this written along with the marked distances of other important cities of the world inside the Eiffel Tower and realize what a fascinating monumental structure you are standing on.

The Eiffel Tower holds you with its stunning ambience whether you are looking in or outside from the top floor of the 1063ft tall architectural marvel. Strangely, this enduring symbol of Paris was supposed to be a temporary construction by Gustave Eiffel for the 1889 Universal Exposition.

The *Arc de Triumphe*, where the Germans marched past on the 140th anniversary of Napoleon Bonaparte's victory at the Battle of Marengo is prominently placed. *Place de la Bastille*, the square, because of its symbolic value has



often been a site of political demonstrations.

The twelfth-century cathedral *Notre Dame de Paris* stands serene, and the Palais Garnier, which was built in the later Second Empire period, now houses the Paris Opera and the Paris Opera Ballet. The former palace of the Louvre is now one of the most renowned museums in

the world that houses many works of art, including the Mona Lisa.

There is also the Tomb of Napoleon Bonaparte and the more recently added golden flame to mark the tunnel where Princess Diana died.

Taking a Seine river cruise is an exceptional, quick and relaxing way to explore Paris. The cuisine is enjoyable, but shopping for the best known perfumes in the world along with champagne and chocolates can be very expensive.

The winters are cold but over the year Paris' climate can be described as mild and moderately wet.

Fashion, elegance and good taste mark this beautiful city. Known for its hospitality, Paris is accessible by rail, road, air and water.

French is the language, but fortunately for us, English too works well and you certainly leave with memories of having visited a very special land.

Spiritual journey

Karuna Kriti
Headway Newsroom

Located at the foothills of the Mount Shivalik, Haridwar is truly the door to God. *Har* means lord Shiva, *Hari* means lord Vishnu and *Dwar* means the door, is one of the oldest, holiest places in India.

Since, the focal point of our trip the Maha Kumbha Mela held once in every 12 years, we reached *Har Ki Pauri* which was simply mesmerising. Here, the riverbanks were occupied by devotees and the calm and quiet atmosphere added to the welcoming ambience.

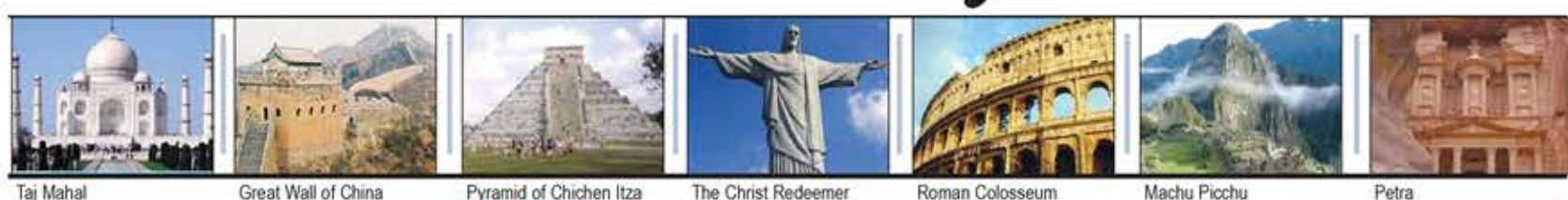
Along with the other devotees we took the holy dip in the sacred waters of river 'Ganga' with the hope of getting salvation and freedom from the cycle of life. The biggest attraction was the Ganga Aarti performed every evening.

A visit to the famous Mansa Devi temple situated at the hilltop on the sides of river Ganga, which requires a ropeway ride, was a lifetime experience.

'Mansa Devi', 'Parad Shivering', 'Bharat Mata ka Mandir', 'Daksh Mahadev Temple', the 'hawan' in Shantikunj Ashram and Saptrishi Ashram are not to be missed when you go to the city of Temples.

We left Haridwar with lovely memories, divine feelings and religious satisfaction. On the whole, the trip was a 'spiritual adventure' - one that will be treasured for ever.

Wonders of today's world



Divya Gauri / Kumari Pallavi
Headway Newsroom

The world is full of wonders with seven of them holding special importance, each having its own story of origin, survival or distortion. These great wonders are manifestation of some great dreams, abilities and efforts. The new seven wonders for the present world were declared on the date '07.07.07' which are modern in both origin and scope.

THE TAJ MAHAL is a mausoleum located in Agra, India, built by the Mughal emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his loving wife Mumtaz Mahal. Constructed in 1653 AD, it is the finest example of Mughal Architecture, combining Persian, Islamic and Indian Architectural styles.

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA is 4,160 miles series of stone and earthen fortification in Northern China, built originally to protect the northern border of the Chinese empire from the encroachment of nomadic group. It took about 100 years to complete its construction. It is ranked as world's longest man-made structure which is apparently the only one visible from moon.

A reminder of the Mayan Civilisation, **THE PYRAMID OF CHICHEN ITZA** is located in Mexico. It is still visible in several structures including the Pyramid of Kukulcan. Chichen Itza as pronounced in Maya means "At the mouth of the well of Itza".

THE CHRIST REDEEMER is the statue of Jesus Christ in Rio do Janeiro, Brazil, considered the largest *Art Deco* sculpture. The

statue is 139ft tall, 48ft width, weight 635 tones located at the peak of Corcovado mountain on 2,300ft facing the city. One interesting fact behind this sculpture is that it was constructed in France by Sculptor Paul Landowska, shipped to Brazil in pieces, and then carried up to the mountain by train and was reassembled there.

THE ROMAN COLOSSEUM is situated at the centre of city Rome which is the largest elliptical amphitheatre, ever built in Roman Empire having a capacity of 50,000 seats. Its construction started between 70-72 AD under emperor Vespasian and was completed in 80 AD. Considered as the greatest work of Roman Architecture and Engineering, it still influences sports stadiums around the world.

8,000 ft above sea level **MACHU PICCHU** was built in 15th century, by Incan emperor Pachacutec. Abandoned by the Incas, the city remained unknown until it was rediscovered by an explorer in 1911. It is also known as the lost city or the city in the cloud.

PETRA, half as old as time itself, is an ancient capital city in Jordan built around 9 BC, during the reign of king Arêtes IV and continued to flourish during the Roman Empire. This was introduced to the western world by the Swiss explorers in 1812.

The new seven wonders were voted by a democratic campaign by over 100 million people. The organisers have made PYRAMID OF GIZA the super wonder of this world, as a tribute to ancient wonders.

2010: A year of scams



Illustration: Shruti Raj

Niharika

Headway Newsroom

The year 2010 could go down in the history of India as a watershed year in terms of scams and the impact they made. Exposés after exposés shook the government (read politicians), administrators, corporate houses and generated disquiet across the country.

According to a report of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), the allegations on 2G scam transgressions that led to the arrest of former union telecom minister Mr A Raja, amounted to ₹1.76 lakh crore. The silence and apparent inaction of Prime Minister Mr Manmohan Singh to tame Mr Raja was questioned not only in both the houses of Parliament, but by the Supreme Court as well.

The Adarsh society scam in Maharashtra exposed a nexus between politicians, builders' lobby and defence officials. It was revealed that in 2002 Mr Ashok Chavan as the state revenue minister had played a key role in sanctioning 40 percent of the apartments to civilians that were built for Kargil war widows. Close on heels of the Adarsh society scam was the multi-crore housing loan racket and the CBI arrested several top public sector bankers on graft charges.

The money involved in alleged Commonwealth Games scam figures to several crore of rupees. The fraud covers a wide variety of issues, ranging from purchase of liquid soap dispensers at inflated price to granting the broadcast rights without following norms.

In Orissa, Chief Minister Mr Naveen Patnaik is under scanner for not acting upon a report of State Lokpal on alleged irregularities in acquisition of land for projects. In year 2009 also a multi-crore illegal scam involving many mining companies was reported.

In Karnataka, Chief Minister Mr B S Yeddyurappa fought a fierce tactical battle to continue in office. Among other allegations against Mr Yeddyurappa was the one that his family members received ₹20 crore from a mining firm as part of a deal in sale of plot in high profile IT park in Bangalore.

These and many more cheats make it look as if India is caught in a quagmire of corruption, where political parties are vying with one another for their share of the pie. According to a study by international advocacy group, Global Financial Integrity (GFI), the tax evasion, corruption and irregularities in pricing in trade and commerce cost India hundreds of billions of dollars over the past years. This scenario was joked about saying that if there were to be a world championship in scamming, our politicians would win hands down.

However, the mind boggling figures of public money drained out of our country compel us to agree with the US President Mr Barack Obama's observation that India is indeed an economic superpower. But, we can no longer remain mute spectators and afford such rampant corruption. For fighting corruption, the government, media and society should work in partnership. Only then, we can have a transparent system that works for development.

Dreaming a stronger India by 2020

Megha Kashyap / Alisha Naveen

Headway Newsroom

Nation consists of people, and with their effort, a nation can accomplish everything it could ever want. In past 60 years, India may not have achieved all that it wanted, but the pace of progress in different sectors is promising and commendable. By 2020, India is expected to be entirely self dependent.

India already being a key player in software (IT) is expected to conquer the hardware industry very soon. Technological advancement will have several positive outcomes ranging from optimum utilisation of nuclear and mineral resources to excelling in scientific and space research.

After the successful launch of Chandrayan-1, Indian Space Research Organisation promises brighter future prospects for space research anticipating the launch of Chandrayan-2 by 2013. The nuclear deal between US and India added new dimensions to the country's

nuclear research operations. In future, nuclear power is expected to contribute heavily in power generation.

After the success of Commonwealth Games, India is hoping

to host the Olympics.

Sportspersons like Abhinav Bindra, Saina Nehwal, Somdev Devvarman and Vishwanathan Anand have held the tricolour high all over the world.

Ten years ago, a car in a lakh was not possible even in dreams, but Ratan Tata made Nano happen. Other entrepreneurs including the Ambani brothers, Azim Premji and Laxmi Mittal are the global leaders in business.

Attempts are being made to empower women. 33% reservation for women in Parliament and 50% reservation to women in the Panchayats in Bihar, a

considerable representation in legislature, public service commissions and defence is an example for the world to follow.

From Ayurveda to H1N1 vaccine, India is largely contributing to medical science. MNREGA, an employment generating programme, guarantees job to unskilled labourers.

Plans to connect cities through Golden Quadrilateral, express-ways, bullet trains will be a

solution for better connectivity. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and e-governance are some of the novel techniques India is employing towards progress. In fact Right to Information Act is an attempt to maintain transparency in the government. If used in the right manner it can be instrumental in curbing corruption.

Young India is also becoming politically mature. Gen-next in politics including politicians like Rahul Gandhi, Sachin Pilot, Omar Abdullah and Agatha Sangama is a positive sign towards India building a strong political base by 2020.

The nation has come a long way since independence, witnessing marked improvements in all the spheres from education to technology, infrastructure to space research to literature and politics. A more powerful India in 2020 would be characterised by a better electorate and a more transparent, efficient and decentralised government with all the elements to lead the world.



Post-Ayodhya, peace exists



Plaintiffs of the disputed Ayodhya conflict.

Eman Hasan / Noopur Jha

Headway Newsroom

India awaited with fingers crossed for the Ayodhya verdict on September 30, 2010. As the hour of justice arrived, there was immense fear among the masses that the hysteria of December 1992 which resulted in country-wide communal riots might again get triggered by the verdict.

The Lucknow bench of Allahabad High Court, comprising Justice S U Khan, Justice Sudhir Agarwal and Justice D V Sharma ruled in a majority of judgment, 2:1, that there should be a three way division of the disputed land—one third to the Sunni Waqf Board, one third to the Nirmohi Akhara and one third to the party for 'Ram Lalla'.

However, the Indian masses accepted the verdict whole heartedly. The way they dealt with the situation, exhibited unity and communal maturity of the people. Opinions from people, belonging to different sectors, revealed a lot about the country's mood:

Dr J P Singh

Former V C, Mithila University
"Communal maturity seems an over-optimistic assessment. No matter which party takes the case to the SC, it will remain there for 30-40 years and people will forget about it."

Syed Zafar Hasan

Social worker
"People of all faiths have now made up their minds that they will not fight on religious grounds. Mutual respect and understanding has definitely increased."

Mrs Lata Jha

Teacher
"Intellectuals were never involved in communal violence. Political parties motivated uneducated masses to perform anti-social activities. But with time people have understood that bloodshed could never do good to any community."

Assam Hassan

MBA student
"People today, especially the youngsters, are too involved in their lives to think about religious differences or thereby support communal activities."

Time to tame Naxal menace

Ankita Kumari / Pooja Kumari / Tanya Kumari

Headway Newsroom

A movement initially based on principles and ideologies has turned into a huge threat to the nation's security. With the world trying to fight its way through terrorism as the global threat, India has its very own internal security threat - Naxalism.

Naxalbari, a small village in West Bengal happens to be the birth place of Naxal movement. It was a mass movement of the farmers against exploitation by the landlords. It was meant to represent the voice of weaker section of society, but eventually the principles got replaced by violence. It has become a way of venting anger against the government, poor implementation of welfare policies, uneven economic development, corruption and administrative failure. Today, known as the 'Red Corridor' or 'Naxal Belt', it has spread to Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa, Chhatisgarh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and West Bengal and is approximated to be spread across 220 districts in 20 states.

The debate today is whether terrorism is the bigger threat or naxalism? In fact, Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh has declared naxalism as the biggest threat to India's internal security. The operation Green Hunt is an attempt of the Indian government to tackle this problem.

Mr Hazari Prasad Sharma, a resident of Jehanabad, believes naxalites are revolutionaries, but their path of violence is not justified. They may be fighting for their rights, but this is not the way to deal with it. There should be alternatives for the rehabilitation of the naxalites and attempts should be made to give them a chance to join the mainstream. The problem can be eradicated only when development is encouraged in the affected areas.



Naxals thriving in the red corridor.

Youth brigade leads India



Agatha Aditya Rahul Varun

Preeti Tripathi / Vidhi

Headway Newsroom

Till a few years back, politics was a vocation looked down upon, a profession which was synonymous with corruption and old age, but today it attracts the youth as a good career option. Be it Rahul Gandhi, Agatha Sangama, Varun Gandhi or the up and coming Aditya Thackeray, fresh faces are flooding politics big time.

These young and vibrant politicians may not have experience but they have the enthusiasm, courage and leadership quality to build a new India. They know how to handle crisis and find a solution to problems.

Agatha K Sangma of Congress, an MP from Tura constituency of Meghalaya is the youngest in the council of ministers. Similarly, Priya Dutta Roncon, MP from Mumbai North Central, represents the versatility and zest of her voters.

Rahul Gandhi is one of the most admired youth leaders and is influencing many youngsters with his visionary Youth Congress. Milind Deora, Member of Lok Sabha founded SPARSH, a social initiative aiming towards educating students in computer and IT proficiency.

Aditya Thackeray, currently the head of Yuva Sena, the youth wing of Shiv Sena, is the heir-apparent of Bala Saheb Thackeray's political lineage.

Sachin Pilot, the minister of state for communication and technology has played a significant role in upgrading communication system and technologies. Jyotiraditya Scindia was thrice elected from Guna, his constituency in Rajasthan. It only shows the voters' willingness for young and qualified leadership, and it seems that the future of India is safe in their young hands.

(Dis)Honour Killings



Graphic: Vidhi

Chanda Ambe / Neha Kumari / Kumari Sadhna / Suphi Parveen

Headway Newsroom

Killing is not honourable. But there are many who were burnt alive, strangled, shot or tortured, all in the name of preserving honour of the family. What reputation does the family deserve after committing such a monstrous offence?

The reason why honour killing is so prevalent is the continued rigidity of the caste system. Marrying in a different caste supposedly brings disrepute to the family honour. Also, with no severe law to punish those guilty of committing honour killing, fanatics not only perform such heinous acts, but justify it.

Cases of honour killing have been reported largely in the northern and eastern parts of India. One of the misconceptions about honour killing is that its practice is confined to rural areas. In fact, in addition to India, honour killings have been reported in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brazil, Ecuador, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Pakistan, Morocco, Sweden, Turkey and Uganda.

According to a study by Indian Democratic Women Association, the number of honour killing cases is more than 1000 every year. The actual number cannot be estimated as most of the cases are not even reported to the police or the media. Very few such incidents come out in the media, mostly because of the social stigma attached at the ultra conservative nature of certain sections of the Indian society. It is alarming to the civilized world that even in progressing societies like that of India, such atrocities happen in the broad day light.

MAJOR CASES

- Nirupama Pathak, a journalist was found murdered in her home, Jharkhand.
- Imrana (16) was set on fire by her neighbours in Ghaziabad.
- Vimla (20) and Hari (28) were murdered by the girl's father in New Delhi.
- A boy (21) was allegedly killed by his girlfriend's (Manjit Kaur) family in Chandigarh.
- 20/07/2010 - a girl was brutally murdered by her family members including her mother in New Delhi.

KHAP PANCHAYATS

Khap is a cluster of villages united by caste and geography. It is as old as 14th century, started by upper caste 'jats' to consolidate their power and position. They maintain that all boys and girls within a Khap are siblings.

Khap Panchayat governs the Khap formed by same gotra (clan) families from several neighbouring villages. Khap panchayats are prevalent in Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and parts of Rajasthan. Love marriages are considered a taboo in areas governed by these panchayats. People of same Khap are not allowed to marry in the same gotra or even in any other gotra in the same village. Many young couples have been killed in the past defying Khap rules.

Youth should sow time: Dr Kiran Bedi

A role model in many respects, Dr Kiran Bedi is the first lady in the Indian Police Services. Headway reporter Sheeba Parwez talks to Dr Kiran Bedi.

What inspired you to go into civil services? What made you opt for IPS?

I saw a lot of discrimination in the society, the difference between the rich and the poor, the weak and the strong. This had a deep impact on me. I thought of civil services as the best way to serve the nation and its people. Police service stood out to me as a symbol of instant justice and a protector of human rights, when it worked the right way.

You are India's first woman to join the IPS. Has it been a difficult journey?

No, it was not because I am a very strong woman, very fit, very confident and no inferiority complex

in any way. I didn't have any problem as such because I was mentally and physically prepared.

After your long stint as an IPS officer, what are the things you feel you would like to change in India?

India is today a corrupt country. It is not led by the right people. It is not getting the leadership it deserves. What is wrong with India is that it is holding back people from realising their potential. It is an unfair country today, mostly because of its wrong political leadership. According to you what steps should be taken to improve the situation of women in this society?

They should be properly educated

and set free. Only education can improve the situation of women. Woman should be allowed to choose their own course of life.

What message would you like to give to the youngsters?

Youngsters have to understand that this is sowing time. They are sowing habits, discipline, knowledge, fitness, value and character which we will reap in time. I therefore think what is important for the youth is nothing but sowing time.



World superpowers rally behind India

India has emerged, says Obama

Monazza Shabbir

Headway Newsroom

US President Mr Barack Obama during his visit to India said, "Whenever I'm asked about Indians taking away our jobs, I want to say: You know, they have created 50,000 jobs for us."

Taking Indo-US trade relations to greater heights, he announced deals worth more than \$10 billion for creating jobs back in the U.S.

Mr Obama was on a four-day visit to India with the First Lady of US, Mrs Michelle Obama. The visit, between November 6 and November 9, was his lengthiest trip to any country. Mr Obama landed at the Mumbai Airport on November

6 with a contingent of 3000 people in two separate 747 jumbo jets. He first visited the Taj hotel and paid homage to the victims of Mumbai terror attack. However, Mr Obama's persistence on avoiding the mention of Pakistan's involvement drew the ire of opposition parties in India.

Mr Obama and his wife had a fantastic start next day as they danced to the Koli fisher folk song of Maharashtra. Mr Obama mingled and responded to the questions of students at St. Xavier's College. After their Mumbai tour, the Obamas landed in Delhi. Mr Obama was charmed by India's heritage including Humayun's Tomb. On the third day of his visit, Mr Obama participated in an official ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan and also paid a visit to Rajghat.

Mr President held a bilateral meeting with Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh at Hyderabad House in New Delhi. The two sides announced specific initiatives in clean energy, health and agriculture. He endorsed India's bid for a permanent seat in UN Security Council.

During their recent visit to India, leaders of P5 countries openly supported India's bid for a permanent seat in UNSC, Monazza Shabbir and Survi Sahay write:



David Cameron, Prime Minister, United Kingdom

United Kingdom Prime Minister Mr David Cameron visited India in the month of July, 2010. His visit focused largely on trade. It was during this visit that a \$1.1 billion deal was signed between Europe's biggest defence contractors Rolls-Royce with HAL to supply 57 Hawk trainer jets to India. He unequivocally condemned Pakistan and emphasised on strengthening ties between India and UK to fight against global terror. He supported India's claim for permanent UNSC seat. Mr Cameron also discussed the G-20 future agenda and about strengthening the Commonwealth.



Nicholas Sarkozy, President, France

French President Mr Nicholas Sarkozy was on a four-day visit to India in the month of December, 2010. In a landmark development, French nuclear major Areva signed agreements worth \$9.3 billion with Nuclear Power Corporation of India to provide two reactors in Maharashtra. The bilateral trade target was set at ~73,600 crores by 2015. Mr Sarkozy favoured India's increased participation in international non-proliferation initiatives and backed India's candidacy for a permanent United Nations Security Council seat. He said India deserved a permanent seat in the expanded UNSC.



Wen Jiabo, Premier, China

Chinese Premier Wen Jiabo's visit in the month of December, 2010 mainly aimed to reach strategic consensus on various issues. The visit addressed concerns over \$20 billion trade imbalance in the current year. Both countries signed six agreements in areas ranging from media and cultural exchanges, food security to enhanced co-operation on trans-border rivers. Mr Jiabo reiterated the position that Beijing supported India's aspirations for a permanent seat in the UNSC. However, he did not mention about the November 2008 Mumbai terror attacks and headed for Islamabad from Delhi.



Dmitry Medvedev, President, Russia

In the end of the year 2010, Russian President Mr Dmitry Medvedev visited India in hope of strengthening trade and investment relations between Russia and India. The two countries agreed on greater cooperation in oil and gas sectors for facilitating joint undertaking of projects and discussed ways to achieve bilateral target of \$20 billion by 2015. A pact for two reactors could not be signed owing to concerns over India's nuclear liability law and pricing issues. Mr Medvedev inked agreement to co-design fifth generation aircraft. He supported India's candidacy for UNSC and called India 'deserving'.



Mrs and Mr Obama on their visit to India

Egypt: Fight for democracy

Swati

Headway Newsroom

After facing fierce protests from countrymen, Egypt President Mr Hosni Mubarak finally stepped down on February 11, 2011. At the Tahrir Square, the feeling of deep accomplishment gave way to serious circumspection. The country is ready to shift to democracy in the post-Mubarak era.

However, peaceful revolution will continue until all demands are met. The victory of people came after a series of demonstrations, violence, attacks, injuries and deaths. Egyptians poured into the streets, adding more fuel to the uprising as it edged closer to a full-scale revolution. The mass rage has many causes, from long-term structural unemployment to rising and apparently uncontrollable food prices to rampant corruption and the brutality of the notorious security agencies.

Tunisian people, who ended Zine El Abidine Ben Ali's 23-year rule, may well have inspired Egyptians.

A key question to emerge from the unfolding uprising in Egypt is what it holds for the Palestine-Israel conflict particularly as the Palestinian Hamas are a wing of the brotherhood.

Another factor in Egypt revolution has been the influential role played by Al Jazeera, the popular Arab news channel.

It is apparent that the Muslim brotherhood is positioning itself for a role in a post-Mubarak Egypt. The Egyptian people's uprising has shown to the world that highly prized western alliance is utterly devoid of legitimacy. That message will echo through every other dictatorship in the region. We are certainly witnessing a transformative moment in the modern history of Middle East.

Indians shine abroad



Indira Nooyi



Naveen Ramgoolam



Pt. Ravi Shankar Prasad



A. R. Rahman



Sunita Williams

Farhana Tabassum

Headway Newsroom

India is the cradle of the human race, the birthplace of human speech, the mother of history, the grandmother of legend, and the great grand mother of tradition. Our most valuable and most instructive materials in the history of man are treasured in India only — Mark Twain had once said. A century later his quote still makes as much sense as it did then.

In a number of foreign countries, people of Indian origin are making headlines. Mr Rajiv Shah is among the members of the cabinet of U.S. President Mr Barack Obama. Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), he was confirmed by the Senate on December 24, making him the highest-ranking Indian American in any Presidential administration. Mr Piyush Amrit

Subhash Chandra alias Bobby Jindal is the current governor of Louisiana and a member of the Republic Party. Naveen Chandra Ramgoolam, the Prime Minister of Mauritius is yet another Indian who is currently holding a high position abroad. Today, there are eight members of Indian-origin in the British parliament depicting the growing roles of the NRIs in world politics.

From music to literature, science to business, young Indians are turning heads everywhere. In the field of science, Mr R Bharat Rao, an Indian-American scientist is among 12 scientists to get the "inventor of the year" award for his pioneering work in developing a new system which utilises data to improve patient care and clinical decisions.

Sunita Williams is a household name in India, as well as the world for her stint as an Astronaut. She is

the first woman to have stayed in the space for 195 days. Indra Krishnamurthy Nooyi is an Indian-born American executive and is the Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer of PepsiCo. In 2010 she was named number one on Fortune's list of the '50 Most Powerful Women' and number six on Forbes' list of the 'World's 100 Most Powerful Women'. Indra Nooyi was also named the 2009 CEO of the Year by Global Supply Chain Leaders Group.

A.R. Rahman's Oscar and Grammy do not need any reminders, nor does Pandit Ravi Shankar's work. These famed musicians have helped India reach the global stage. A new addition here is the Indian origin singer Anoop Desai, one of the finalists of 'American Idol', who is hogging limelight with the launch of his debut album 'All Is Fair'.

GLOBAL WARMING

Volcano disrupts air travel



Volcanic eruption

Sweta

Headway Newsroom

In March 2010, the world witnessed a major volcanic eruption 'Eyjafjallayakull' near Iceland. It was strong enough to affect the world for more than a month.

Eruption of eyjafjallayakull was a sequence of volcanic events at Eyjafjallayakull. Residue of the volcanic eruption rose to a height of approximately 30,000 feet. The volcanic ash cloud forced the cancellation of many flights. It disrupted the air traffic across more than 20 countries in Northern Europe, stranding thousands of passengers. This led to the highest level of air travel disruption since the Second World War. The International Air Transport Association (IATA) estimated that the airlines industry over the world lost US \$ 200 million per day during the period of disturbance. Aviation experts say the volcanic plume has caused the worst travel disruption that Europe and the world has ever seen.

The disruptions hit tourists, business travellers and dignitaries alike. Many events were delayed or cancelled. But the massive reduction of air travel caused by the ash cloud blocked million tonnes of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere. This eruption illustrated how interconnected our world has become as the effect of this natural disaster in Europe, was reflected around the globe.

Snowfall freezes Europe

Shruti Raj

Headway Newsroom

Europe shivered in the grip of an unseasonably early snowfall in the last months of 2010. Blizzards and freezing temperatures shut down runways, train tracks and highways across Europe, disrupted flights and left drivers stranded on roadsides shivering.

Hundreds of travellers were stranded at airports and railway stations and stuck on snow-bound motorways with their holiday plans in ruins. The bad weather conditions, freezing temperatures and record level of snowfall created commotion, disturbing normal life across Europe. Severe frost killed more than 93 people.

In Britain, it was one of the coldest winters. Heathrow, Gatwick and Belfast International were among the many airports forced to shut down because of heavy snow resulting in cancellation or long delays.

Motorways saw long tailbacks with cars and lorries blocked by snow going nowhere. The situation worsened in the Netherlands, as the highways were fully covered in ice and two tunnels had to be closed. People were being advised not to venture out unless absolutely essential as emergency services struggled to cope with desperate calls for help. Horse racing, meetings and dozens of soccer games in England and Scotland were called off as a result of these conditions.

A NOBEL TO HONOUR



Sobya Abdali

Headway Newsroom

Since 1901, the Nobel Foundation in Stockholm, Sweden, awards pioneers in six fields: Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Economics, Literature and Peace. The awardees also get prize money of 10 million Swedish Kronor.

PHYSICS:

Mr Andre Geim and Mr Konstantin Novoselov for their contribution in ground breaking experiments with graphene.

CHEMISTRY:

Mr Ei-ich Negishi, Mr Akira Suzuki and Mr Richard Heck for palladium-catalyzed cross couplings in organic synthesis.

PHYSIOLOGY:

Dr. Robert G. Edwards for his contribution to IVF technology.

ECONOMICS:

Mr Peter Diamond, Mr Dale Mortensen and Mr Christopher Pissarides for the Diamond-Mortensen-Pissarides model.

LITERATURE:

Mr Peruvian Mari Vargas Llosa, one of the most acclaimed writers in the Spanish world.

PEACE:

Mr Liu Xiaobo for using non-violence to demand fundamental human rights in his homeland, China.

Racial attacks threaten Indians

Nisha Rani

Headway Newsroom

Twenty-one-year-old Indian student Nitin Garg was a permanent resident of Melbourne and was working part time in a restaurant. Garg was attacked by few unidentified Australians on his way back home. 25 year old Shrawan Kumar was admitted in Royal Melbourne hospital, when he was stabbed with a screwdriver by a group of teenagers.

These racist attacks on Indians hit headlines not only in India but around the world. Shaken by a wave of racial assaults, thousands of Indian students and supporters protested all over the world.

A software engineer working in Australia, Mr Sanjay Kumar said, "I think Australians are tolerant. All attacks were not racist in nature. In fact they were what we call 'opportunistic attacks'. Our students are easy target for various reasons." He added that the Indian media has made this issue graver when a three-year-old Indian boy Gurshan Singh's body was found on the roadside in



Indians protesting against alleged racial attacks in Australia.

Melbourne. Investigations revealed that his Indian housemate was behind the murder.

These attacks have become a matter of concern for the Australian government as it can affect Australia's \$15.5 billion education market. And the Australian government appeared to be reaching out.

The issue has been hyped to an extent that Indian filmmakers have

depicted this in their forthcoming movies, one of them being Crook.

However, Indian-Australian residents insist that Australia is not a racist country.

There are many examples of successful members in the Indian Community just like any other society in Australia. And we can only hope that racism does not threaten any more Indian lives around the world.

CWG 2010: Beginning of an era

Smriti

Headway Newsroom

The 19th Commonwealth Games held in New Delhi caught the attention of the world for its spectacular opening and closing ceremonies. The Games were declared open on October 3, 2010, by Britain Prince Charles in presence of President of India, Pratibha Singh Patil. In the opening and closing ceremonies, the spectators turned speechless seeing the speculative mix of culture with technology.

The Jawaharlal Nehru stadium in Delhi decked like a bride on the night of October 3. People were left awestruck. The Indian contingent was led by Olympic gold medallist Abhinav Bindra. In the opening ceremony, Bodhi tree, the tree of knowledge sprang to life representing simplicity and brilliance. Indian artists led a colourful display of music, art and dance. The opening portrayed, the India of *doodhwallahs*, *rikshawallahs*, and *dabbawallahs*. The huge helium filled aerostat was the centre of attraction. The audiences went into raptures as A. R. Rahman performed his Delhi 2010 anthem 'Jio, Utho, Badho, Jeeto' and the Oscar-winning 'Jai Ho'.

Most of the sporting events went without a hitch. The Indian contingent's total haul of 101 medals with 38 gold surpassed all expectations. India finished second only to Australia. The success of the Games has increased the expectations and everybody is now looking forward to see India hosting the Olympics.

In the closing ceremony too, the representation of varied cultures hung large on the people. The performances of major Indian art exponents kept the audiences spell-bound.

However, corruption, delay in getting the venues ready and unhygienic conditions in the Games Village made the Games unpopular initially, but after the splendid opening there was no looking back.

The great show and its immense success proved that India is capable of hosting any big event successfully.



GOLD DIGGERS

1. Abhinav Bindra
2. Alka Tomar
3. Anil Kumar
4. Anisa Sayyed
5. Anita Kumari
6. Anuraj Singh

7. Ashwini Akkunj
8. Ashwini Ponnappa
9. Bombayala Laishram
10. Deepika Kumari
11. Dola Banerjee
12. Gagan Narang
13. Geeta Rani

14. Gurpreet Singh
15. Harpreet Singh
16. Heena Sindhur
17. Imran Hassan Khan
18. Jwala Gutta
19. Krishna Poonia
20. Mandeep Kaur

21. Manjeet Kaur
22. Manoj Kumar
23. Narsingh Panch Yadav
24. Omkar Singh
25. Paramjeet Samota
26. Rahul Banerjee
27. Rajendra Kumar

28. Rani Sarnobat
29. Ravi Kr. Katulu
30. Ravinder Singh
31. Renubala Chanu
32. Saina Nehwal
33. Sanjay Kumar
34. Sarnath Kamal

35. Sini Jose
36. Somdev Devvarman
37. Subhajt Saha
38. Suranjay Mayengbam
39. Sushil Kumar
40. Vijay Kumar
41. Yogeshwar Dutt

ASIAN GAMES: GLORY FOR INDIA

Grace Jasmine Jolliffe

Headway Newsroom

The 16th Asian Games held in Guangzhou, China, saw the Indian athletes excel in various events, beating their previous records at the Asian Games in terms of gold medals.

India grabbed a total of 14 gold

medals, when India's ace boxer Vijender Singh picked the 14th gold for the country on the closing day, taking the medals tally to 64.

For the first time, Indian women kabaddi team participated in the Asian Games and won a gold medal. Men's kabaddi team also won the gold for 6th time since

its inception in 1990. India also grabbed a gold medal in women's 4 x 400m relay.

China with 412 medals, including 192 gold, occupied the first position, followed by Korea and Japan at second and third positions respectively. India finished at sixth place in the medals tally with 14 gold, 17 silver and 33

bronze medals. The 16th Asian games came to an end on November 27, 2010.

India is stepping out of shadows, where unknown names and unfamiliar faces are making India proud. First Commonwealth Games and now Asian Games have definitely raised the bar for Indian athletes.



Oz fall, India rise



Rakhi Sinha

Headway Newsroom

In a country where cricket is religion and cricketers are no less than gods, what could be more pleasant than the splendid rise of its team as the world's 'UNBEATABLES', leaving everybody behind, including Australia.

If rankings are to be taken into account, India is a strong contender for number one position in all the three formats of international cricket. It has already occupied the first position in ICC Test rankings and holds the second rank in one-day-internationals. In the Twenty20 format, though it is at the fifth place, its present performance is guaranteeing improvements.

On the other hand, the Australian cricket team, a team that was once a synonym of

fear and dread to their opponents, is now going downhill. The ball is now out of the kangaroo's pouch and it has been caught by the Indian tigers. Dropped to an all time low fifth position in the ICC Test rankings, Aussies are striving hard to retain their position.

The last decade has given India a lot of achievements to cheer upon. Winners of the ICC Champions Trophy in 2002, runners-up in the World Cup 2003, winners of the first World T-20 Championship in 2007 and many more ODI and Test series win. Apparently, the Indian youth brigade has a considerable share in these triumphs.

Contrary to this, after winning the Border-Gavaskar Trophy in 2007-08, Kangaroos are now past their best. Most of their star cricketers such as Adam Gilchrist, Jason Gillespie, and Shane Warne have taken retirement and the present team suffers a lack of form and fitness every now and then. Is this the end of the Australian era? The former Indian coach and present selector of the Australian team, Mr Greg Chappell, states that a major factor behind the decline of the Oz team is the ageing of the Australian players at about the same time. But he suggests that they will make a come back very soon.

It would really be very interesting to see whether the Kangaroos will buck-up to regain their almost lost position or the 'Men-In-Blue' will repeat history in the World Cup 2011. All we have to say is "CHAK DE INDIA"

FIFA 'hero' rests in peace

Anshika Srivastava / Ritu Kumari

Headway Newsroom

Spain's dream of providing shelter to Octopus Paul could not materialise. The hero of Fifa World Cup, 2010, Octopus Paul, who grabbed the headlines for correctly predicting the match results for Germany including the finals won by Spain, was found dead in its aquarium on the morning of July 26, 2010. Paul's demise turned the staff of 'Oberhausen Sea Life Center' into shock and tears.

Paul's accurate predictions (8/8) had created waves all over the world and earned it many admirers. As a reward for accurate predictions, the aquarium staff presented Paul with its own replica world cup trophy garnished with Paul's favourite food 'mussels'. However, anti-Germany prediction before the final game annoyed German football lovers to the extent that they put the recipe of 'Paul Sizzlers' on Twitter. Though Spain had offered to provide protection to Paul and a Spanish zoo had even offered to buy Paul, the proposals were ultimately denied.



Indians make a mark

Abhilasa/ Akanchha Verma

Headway Newsroom

Indian players are of late doing remarkably well in sporting arena.

In the Commonwealth Games, 2010, India successfully bagged 101 medals including 38 gold and secured the second position.

The young Indian players are boosting the spirit of Indian sports. In cricket, young turks such as Virat Kohli, Yusuf Pathan and Suresh Raina are playing good cricket.

Hockey, the national game of India, has got energised with players like Rajpal Singh, Sandeep Singh, Surinder Kaur and Dipika Murthy.

Badminton is creating its own history with Jwala Dutta, Rohan Bopanna, Ashwini Ponappa and the 'Khel Ratna' awardee Saina Nehwal.

In tennis, Somdev Burman and Sania Mirza are touching new heights.

Indian shooters Abhinav Bindra, Gagan Narang, Anisa Sayyed, Omkar Singh, Vijay Kumar and Harpreet Singh are targeting the top slot in the world.

Archers Dola Banerjee, Deepika Kumari, Bombayala Devi, Rahul Banerjee have held India's head high in the Commonwealth Games.

Sushil Kumar, Ravinder Singh, Anil Kumar, Manoj Kumar in wrestling are household names today while Vijendar Singh and Akhil Kumar in boxing are

punching their way to the top. In billiards, Pankaj Adwani is gaining international fame.

Apart from these, Indian players in wrestling, golf, swimming and athletics are making their mark in the world platform in their respective fields.

With such players creating new milestones everyday, it would not be wrong to say that India is all set to take on the world in sports too.



Women shine in sports

Sumedha Jha

Headway Newsroom

Their confidence and spirit is a motivation to every Indian woman. Here are some female players who made India proud with their extraordinary achievements:

Woman grandmaster Padmini Raut won bronze medal in the chess championship.

Boxer M C Marycom created history by winning her fifth serial world championship.

Tejaswini Sawant won gold medal in world shooting championship.

Mithali Raj and Jhulan Goswami are currently top rankers in women cricket.

In CWG 2010, Jwala Gutta alongwith Ashwini Ponnappa won gold medal in badminton doubles; Saina Nehwal won gold in badminton singles, Harwant Kaur won silver in discus throw; Seema Antil won bronze and Rani Sarnobat gold in pistol shooting; Renubala Chanu gold and Sonia Chanu silver in weightlifting; Tejaswini Sawant won silver and Dola Banerjee bronze in shooting; Alka Tomar and Anita Kumari won gold in wrestling; Sania Mirza won silver in tennis mixed doubles; Geeta won gold, Nirmala Devi won silver and Suman Kundu bronze in wrestling; Athlete Tintu Luka won bronze in 800m; women team won gold in Kabaddi; D.Marika won bronze in chess; G.G.Pramila won bronze in Meptathalan; Kavita Raut won bronze in 10,000m; Sania Mirza won bronze in tennis singles; Deepika Kumari gold in individual archery; Dola Banerjee, Deepika Kumari and Bombayala Laishram gold in team archery; Rimil bronze in archery; athlete Krishna Poonia won gold in discus throw.

Krishna Poonia (athlete), Jhulan Goswami (cricketer), and Anita Chanu (weightlifter) were given the prestigious Arjuna award.

Women's hockey team won bronze in women's champions trophy.

IN THE PREMISES



Priya from department of Psychology (centre) won the title of 'Miss Patna Women's College' in the farewell programme for the final year students of BA, BSc, B Com and vocational courses on February 12, 2011. Shruti Raj (extreme left) of mass communication department and Priyanka Singh of department of psychology were crowned as the first and second runners up, respectively.

Kumari Babil/ Richa

The department of advertising, sales promotion and sales management (ASPASM) and the department of business administration of Patna Women's College organised a two-day workshop on the January 7-8, 2011. The theme of the workshop revolved around brands and thus the workshop was named **BRANDS 2011**. This was the 16th workshop organised by the departments where a total of 28 stalls were put up.

The chief guest at Brands 2011 was Mr Shyam Rajak, minister for food and civil supplies. Mr Ashok Patnaik, vice president, marketing, Ashiana Hyundai Limited, was the guest of honour.

The presence of brands like NIIT, IMS Learning Centre, Career Planner, Vodafone, TVS, International School of Business and Media Studies, Tanishq, Indian Business Academy and Indian Management Studies made the workshop a huge success.

Amidst several cultural programmes, a **HEALTH CHECK-UP SERIES** was organised in Patna Women's College by the Home Science department. The main aim of this programme was to make the students aware of health related problems. The programme commenced with "breast feeding promotion week" on August 1. It concluded on August 7. Principal Dr. Sister Doris D'Souza threw light on the importance of breastfeeding. The programme was coordinated by Dr Sujata Jha, Dr Vandana Singh, Dr Punam Kumari, and Dr Kumari Rupam.

Under this health series "National Nutritional Week" was also celebrated. A free dental check-up camp was also organised. Dr Preeti Singh and Dr Anjali offered valuable advices on cavity problem. Over 200 people were checked including students, teaching and non teaching staff.

Patna Women's College organised a **MUSICAL CONCERT** in collaboration with the 'Spic Macay' on September 21, 2010. Spic Macay is a society for promotion of Indian classical music and culture among youth.

Various renowned artistes graced this occasion. They included well known *kathak* dancer from Patna, Pandit Shivjee Mishra, and son and disciples of the celebrated vocalist of the Benaras Gharana Pandit Rajan Mishra — Sri Ritesh Mishra, Rajnish Mishra, Sri Ashish Mishra on tabla and Shri Sumit Mishra on the harmonium. Dr Prof Mayashankar, chairperson, Spic Macay, also graced the occasion.

Along with this, an interactive session with Acharya Shrivastava Goswami was also organised on December 7, 2010 by Spic Macay on the "Role of youth in the changing society."

The **INAUGURATION OF COMMERCE LAB**, a one of its kind in the state, on February 19, 2010 by the Commerce department, was a moment of pride for Patna Women's College. The inaugural programme started with lighting of the lamp followed by a welcome song. Ms Sadaf Fatima, the coordinator addressed everybody on behalf of the department. She talked about the transformation and upgradation of their department. She was delighted that the lab consists of banking, accounting, insurance, stock exchange and foreign exchange sections. At the end of the programme, Principal Dr. Sister Doris D'Souza thanked the guests.

Job avenues open

Monazza Shabbir / Shalini

Headway Newsroom

Patna Women's College witnessed various companies including IBM Daksh, Wipro BPO and Star TV arriving in the campus for placement drives in 2010-11. The companies invited final year degree students for an interactive placement session with their teams. IBM Daksh visited the campus on September 27-28, 2010 and Wipro BPO on 29-30 October, 2010 while Star TV arrived at the campus on February 7, 2011.

The eligibility criteria for both BPOs demanded good communication skills, willingness to work 24X7 anywhere across India. The response of the students was overwhelming. Around 500 students participated for the interview of IBM and more than 200 for Wipro BPO. However, after multiple rounds of examinations and interviews, 123 students were recruited in IBM Daksh and 28 in Wipro BPO.

Tulika Bhardwaj of BCA said, "This interview assessed my competence level. I will think about joining only after the completion of my course." For some this recruitment drive was a boon as they were really in need of the job. Vidhi of BMC said, "I don't mind working and pursuing PG side by side." The placement drives were greatly appreciated by the students as it



increased their confidence level and helped those who are unable to take up higher studies due to personal constraints.

Mr Rohit Sharma, head, HR, IBM Daksh said, "Patna Women's College girls are talented and fulfill the criteria set by the company."

Bihar's reputed local news channel Maurya TV also visited the college in January to select students for reporting and anchoring.

Around 15 students were selected in the first round. Star TV, Mumbai came to the college in search of script and dialogue writers, programming interns and actors. Final year students across all the streams participated in the recruitment drive.

Sports meet: PWC girls shine

Shweta Singh

Headway Newsroom

The annual sports meet of Patna Women's College was organised on December 11, 2010. The opening ceremony was inaugurated with the hoisting of the flag by Mr Prashant Kumar Shahi, minister for department of Human Resource Development (HRD), government of Bihar. It was one of the biggest events organised in the college sports ground.

The college cabinet started the march past holding the Olympic ring. The five Olympic rings symbolise the five continents on earth. They are linked as a symbol of unity to signify how different nations come together to compete with each other in the Olympic events.

The march past was led by Anisha Singh, Premier, who held the college flag, and was followed by Shweta Singh, the sports secretary. Different departments of the institution with their march troops followed. The troops took their position in the sports field while the torch relay performed by three national level players was in progress. The torch was then handed over to previous year college sports champion Chandani. She lit the torch, took the oath on behalf of the students of the college and pledged to participate with zeal and fair play.

Dr Sister Doris D'souza A.C. Principal, Patna Women's College addressed the students and encour-



aged them to participate enthusiastically in various field events like 100m, 200m, 400m, 1600m, cycle race, 4X100m baton relay race. The other items like yogan, ribbon drill, combined drill, aerobics and Dandiya was done by different departments.

The overall championship trophy was jointly won by Chandani and Anu, while the runner up was Sweta Kumari. The individual indoor championship was awarded to Samrah Fatema.

Prizes were also distributed for the march past. The first prize went to BCom third year, second prize to BSc. third year and third prize was bagged by BA third year students.

Sister Lucile: A tribute



Sr. Mary Lucile, A.C.

Devyani Trivedi

Headway Newsroom

The sad demise of former principal Sister Mary Lucile, A.C. on October 5, 2010 left the Patna Women's College family grief-stricken. Sister Lucile was born in Mangalore, on June 18, 1918. She completed her BA at St. Agnes College, Mangalore in 1943, and MA at Madras Presidency College, Madras, in 1957.

She began her teaching career in Patna Women's College in 1943. In 1957, she was appointed as the principal of Patna Women's College. A post she occupied for 21 years. She was a member of the Patna University Senate Academic Council, Board of Studies.

She was also a member of Bihar Sports Council, treasurer of Bihar Women's Relief Committee and of Mahila Imdad Committee. She provided assistance to the flood victims of Bihar. She was Lucinate of Literature.

She loved reading books and her most loved poem was "Crossing the Bar" by Alfred Tennyson.

She was calm and polite, had lots of patience and never shouted on anyone. She was loved by the students and they would miss her company. She had a wide range of interests, was religious, academic and environment-friendly. She loved to initiate new things and encourage everyone.

CREATIVE MINDS

Top 10 posters created by BMC students



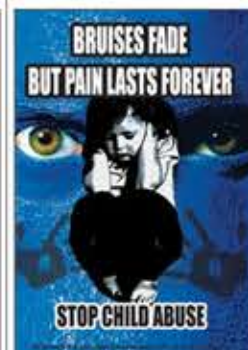
Richa



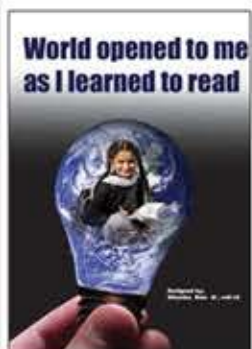
Leena Basak



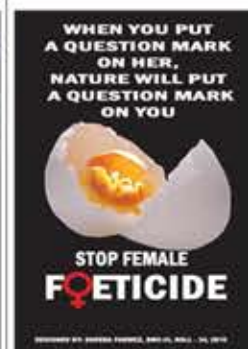
Tanya



Devyani Trivedi



Niharika



Sheeba Parwez



Shikha Singh



Shalini

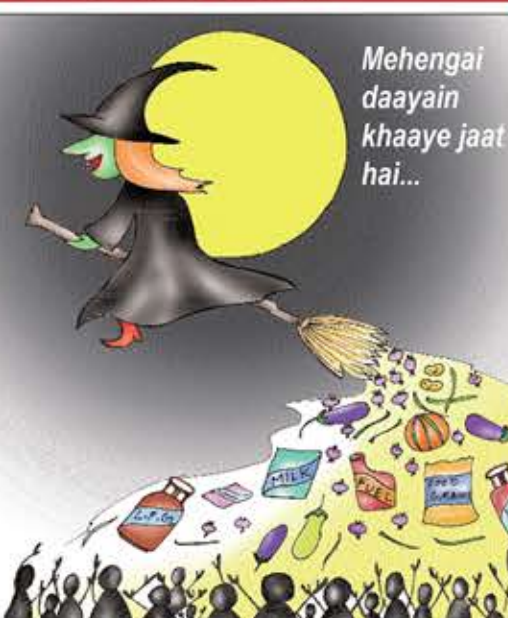


Farhana Tabassum



Vithika Salomi

Cartoon corner / By Shruti Raj



Canteen: The 'masti' point

Niharika

Headway Newsroom

It's 12 o'clock. This is the only break they get in an otherwise hectic day. And the girls at the Patna Women's College make sure that they do not miss out on the fun during their interval. There is no time to waste as girls huddle in groups and get into the chatting mode the moment they enter the canteen, a beehive of activities. They talk about a whole lot of things over ice-cream, cold drinks and snacks. College events, class incidents, fashion, movies and music, not necessarily in this order. "Usually, this is where we come for time pass," some students say. In another corner, two girls from the Science stream sit silently, sipping their coffee. This is their comfort zone, but they are not this silent always. "We gossip. There are so many funny things happening. There is no dearth of gossip issues." Another group says, "Our gang has members from every department. So, one can imagine how much we enjoy ourselves." Serious things like studies and academic projects are also discussed here. For some it's a comfort zone, for others time pass and a place to enjoy. The college canteen, simply, is an enjoyment hub for one and all.

HEADWAY EDITORIAL TEAM



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