

THE WEEKLY RURAL NEWSLETTER



ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

Greetings Readers!

An overwhelming population in India continues to live in what is defined as 'non-urban' or rural. As per the last Census (2011), of the total 1210.2 million population 833.1 million or 69 per cent lived in rural areas in around 6.4 lakh villages. The rural life, while popularly portrayed as simple, slow, and serene, is much more complex, unsettling, diverse and going through rapid changes. In a world dominated by the hustle and bustle of urban life, the heartbeat of rural India often goes unnoticed. **Welcome to the Weekly Rural Newsletter**, where we aim to bridge this gap by shedding light on the stories, struggles, and triumphs of the large majority of India's population.



Presented by the diligent students of Rural Sociology, this Newsletter is a humble effort to amplify the rural voices that deserve to be heard. By closely following the national and regional media platforms students cover different states as 'state correspondents' and document the developments unfolding in the socio-economic, political and cultural spheres of the countryside. A team of two students compiles these news reports in the form of a newsletter on a weekly basis and brings the newsletter to you. We believe that incorporating exercises that focus on rural affairs into educational settings can have far-reaching effects in terms of students' awareness about the challenges and opportunities in rural areas, holistic education, empathy, community engagement, and policy advocacy. We hope this exercise also creates a ripple effect among the larger audience.

Stay tuned for more stories from the heartlands of our nation!

With rustic regards,
The Rural Sociology Students' Team

ANDHRA PRADESH

10 GOVERNMENT SCHOOL STUDENTS SET TO ATTEND SDG SUMMIT AT UN HQ

A 10-member delegation of students from Andhra Pradesh has visited the United States for a two-week visit to attend seminars and hold discussions at various institutions. This marks the first time underprivileged students from government schools in the state have been part of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Summit at the United Nations headquarters in New York. The tour aims to provide meritorious students with a global platform to learn, discuss, and share their knowledge and ideas.

LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEP 19, 2023)

[HTTPS://WWW.NEWINDIANEXPRESS.COM/STATES/ANDHRA-PRADESH/2023/SEP/18/10-GOVERNMENTSCHOOL-STUDENTS-SET-TO-ATTEND-SDG-SUMMIT-AT-UN-HQ-2615934.HTML](https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/andhra-pradesh/2023/sep/18/10-government-school-students-set-to-attend-sdg-summit-at-un-hq-2615934.html)

The students will also highlight initiatives implemented in the education sector. Officials observed that a portion of these students originated from modest socio-economic backgrounds. Some students' parents are employed as daily wage laborers, while others hold occupations as auto and truck drivers, mechanics, and security personnel.



ASSAM

KHASI WOMAN THREATENED BY ASSAM RESIDENTS OVER LAND FOR WATER TANK PROJECT

After courteously providing their land for the construction of a water tank under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) program, a Khasi permanent inhabitant family named Juki Marwet from Barapathar faced threats from two Assam inhabitants, Tutu Majumdar and Nurul Islam, in a worrying turn of events close to Assam's border. When the Rangbah Shnong of Barapathar, Soni Nongtri, started building the water tank on the land, the situation came to surface.

Village leaders further disclosed that Tutu Majumdar and Nurul Islam had a track record of interfering with local development initiatives.

LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEP 25, 2023)

[HTTPS://HUENETWORK.IN/ASSAM-RESIDENTS-THREATEN-KHASI-FAMILY-OVER-LAND-FOR-WATER-TANK-PROJECT-DEMANDS-IMMEDIATE-ARREST-OF-THE-INDIVIDUALS-RESPONSIBLE/](https://huenetwork.in/assam-residents-threaten-khasi-family-over-land-for-water-tank-project-demands-immediate-arrest-of-the-individuals-responsible/)

They are accused of destroying the foundation stone for village roadways built in accordance with the MNREGA Act.

The village officials and Juki Marwet's family have registered an official complaint against the notorious duo. They are demanding their immediate arrest to safeguard and secure justice for the affected family.



BIHAR

DENGUE OUTBREAK NOT STOPPING IN BIHAR, 289 NEW PATIENTS FOUND IN 24 HOURS; SECOND DEATH IN MUZAFFARPUR.

In the last 24 hours, 289 new cases of dengue have been found increasing the count to 4182 just alone in this month. There are about 200 plus patients being treated in 12 colleges. Muzaffarpur saw its second death due to the dengue outbreak.

The deceased was a resident of Kanti, aged 43 years. The patient had settled here from Nagaland. Around 15th September he was admitted to the hospital for symptoms of dengue and by 17th August his health started deteriorating.



LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEPT 24, 2023)
[HTTPS://WWW.LIVEHINDUSTAN.COM/BIHAR/STORY-DENGUE-OUTBREAK-IS-NOT-STOPPING-IN-BIHAR-MORE-THAN-4000-PATIENTS-FOUND-THIS-MONTH-SECOND-DEATH-FROM-MUZAFFARPUR-8756041.HTML](https://www.livehindustan.com/bihar/story-dengue-outbreak-is-not-stopping-in-bihar-more-than-4000-patients-found-this-month-second-death-from-muzaffarpur-8756041.html)

(TRANSLATED FROM HINDI TO ENGLISH)

GUJARAT

CLEANLINESS CAMPAIGN OBSERVED IN RURAL AREAS OF KUTCH

A cleaning campaign has been organized in various villages of Kutch by the District Village Development Agency. With the theme of Garbage Free India of 'Swachhta Hi Seva 2023', people are prioritizing cleanliness in rural areas to make villages garbage free. Cleaning campaigns, public awareness, street plays, cleanliness rally, drawing competition in school, essay competition, and health checkup camp for sanitation workers are being held to make the villages garbage free.

People's participation is being ensured through cleaning campaigns and various sanitation activities. According to the director of the district village development agency, people are registering their participation in this campaign by voluntarily joining the cleanliness fortnight.



LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEP 23, 2023)
[HTTPS://WWW.DIVYABHASKAR.CO.IN/LOCAL/GUJARAT/KUTCH/NEWS/A-CLEANING-CAMPAIGN-WAS-CONDUCTED-IN-VARIOUS-VILLAGES-OF-KUTCH-DISTRICT-UNDER-GRAMIN-SWACHHTA-HI-SEVA-131874109.HTML](https://www.divyabhaskar.co.in/local/gujarat/kutch/news/a-cleaning-campaign-was-conducted-in-various-villages-of-kutch-district-under-gramin-swachhta-hi-seva-131874109.html)

(TRANSLATED FROM GUJARATI TO ENGLISH)

HARYANA

REVOLUTIONISING RURAL INDIA: HARYANA'S DRONE-POWERED LAND RECORDS TRANSFORMATION

Effective land management is essential for both urban and rural areas to experience sustainable growth. Transparency and accessibility in land administration can be greatly improved by modernising land registration systems, streamlining the acquisition of property, and improving procedures for resolving disputes—combined with technological advancements and the adoption of cutting-edge technologies. Land records were maintained using antiquated and dangerous methods because they were vulnerable to damage from neglect and dust buildup.

These records also suffered additional damage because manual retrieval was required. The underlying rules have also been appropriately changed to allow for this change without encountering any legal issues.



LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEP 19, 2023)

[HTTPS://EGOV.ELETSONLINE.COM/2023/09/REVOLUTIONISING-RURAL-INDIA-HARYANAS-DRONE-POWERED-LAND-RECORDS-TRANSFORMATION/](https://egov.eletsonline.com/2023/09/revolutionising-rural-india-haryanas-drone-powered-land-records-transformation/)

HARYANA

LED BY DALIT DAILY WAGER'S DAUGHTER, RURAL HARYANA GIRLS GUN FOR SUBROTO GLORY

The coveted Subroto Cup will begin on Tuesday, and girls from a rural government school in Haryana who come from families of daily wage earners and marginal farmers are all prepared to travel to Delhi to compete.

The team's captain, Manisha Rani, is the daughter of a daily wage worker and a member of the Dalit community. She was motivated to start playing football by her desire to work for the government.

Vice-captain Rishika is the daughter of a small-time farmer who was encouraged to play sports by a supportive father who saw a son in her.

On September 20, the GSSS-Alakhpura team will compete in its inaugural game against a Sikkim-based school.



LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEP 19, 2023)

[HTTPS://TIMESOFINDIA.INDIATIMES.COM/CITY/CHANDIGARH/LED-BY-DALIT-DAILY-WAGERS-DAUGHTER-RURAL-HARYANA-GIRLS-GUN-FOR-SUBROTO-GLORY/ARTICLESHOW/I0377I752.CMS](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/CITY/CHANDIGARH/LED-BY-DALIT-DAILY-WAGERS-DAUGHTER-RURAL-HARYANA-GIRLS-GUN-FOR-SUBROTO-GLORY/ARTICLESHOW/I0377I752.CMS)

JAMMU & KASHMIR

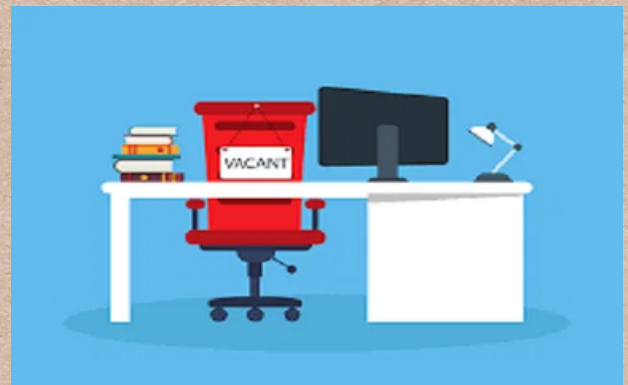
I66 POSTS OF DOCTORS VACANT IN KUPWARA, PATIENTS SUFFER

The frontier district of Kupwara is suffering from a significant shortage of doctors, which is impacting the quality of health treatment throughout the district. According to the information available, 322 of the 488 sanctioned doctor positions are now filled, while the remaining 166 have been empty for quite some time. Administrative officers, consultants, medical officers, dental surgeons, allopathic specialists, allopathic medical officers, and ISM medical officers are among the vacant positions. People are upset with the administration for neglecting to fill vacant positions in the district.

They said that health care had suffered as a result of a doctor shortage, and that nothing was being done to fill the positions. Due to a dearth of doctors, some health centers in the district's snowbound regions are running without doctors, producing major concerns for the general people.

LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEP 21, 2023)

[HTTPS://WWW.GREATERKASHMIR.COM/KASHMIR/I66-POSTS-OF-DOCTORS-VACANT-IN-KUPWARA-PATIENTS-SUFFER](https://www.greaterkashmir.com/kashmir/i66-posts-of-doctors-vacant-in-kupwara-patients-suffer)



KARNATAKA

CAUVERY WATER DISPUTE: KARNATAKA ORDERED TO RELEASE 5,000 CUSECS OF WATER TO TAMIL NADU FOR 15 DAYS

Most of South India is facing the brunt of the El Nino effect, forcing a drastic reduction in the seasonal monsoons. Being an agricultural country, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu both depend on the river Cauvery as their primary water source. In this phase of water scarcity, Karnataka has refused to release water to Tamil Nadu. A board meeting between the two states was called 2 days ago. 5,000 cusecs of water were ordered to be released for a span of 15 days, after which the order would be reconsidered.

Both states are in desperate need of water to support the farmer's agricultural practices. In the case of continued limited water supply, either state is heading towards a state of drought and huge monetary losses.

LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEP 18, 2023)

[HTTPS://WWW.DECCANHERALD.COM/INDIA/KARNATAKA/CAUVERY-WATER-DISPUTE-KARNATAKA-ORDERED-TO-RELEASE-5000-CUSECS-OF-WATER-TO-TAMIL-NADU-FOR-15-DAYS-2691064](https://www.deccanherald.com/india/karnataka/cauvery-water-dispute-karnataka-ordered-to-release-5000-cusecs-of-water-to-tamil-nadu-for-15-days-2691064)



KERALA

BUDGET PROGRESSIVELY COMING DOWN; CENTRE AIMS TO DILUTE MGNREGS, SAYS KERALA MINISTER M.B. RAJESH

Kerala's Minister for Local Self-Government, M.B. Rajesh, has criticized the central government for its poor allocation of funds for the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) as the state has been struggling with fulfilling the demand effectively. For the past few years, the funds allocated have been reducing and the Kerala government has had to keep asking for more funds.

He accused the Modi led government of diluting the importance of MGNREGA and stated the need for more funds as the many of the workers under the scheme are women who sole breadwinners for their families.

LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEPT 23, 2023)

[HTTPS://WWW.THEHINDU.COM/OPINION/INTERVIEW/BUDGET-PROGRESSIVELY-COMING-DOWN-CENTRE-AIMS-TO-DILUTE-MGNREGS-SAYS-KERALA-MINISTER-MB-RAJESH/ARTICLE67334201.ECE](https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/interview/budget-progressively-coming-down-centre-aims-to-dilute-mgnregs-says-kerala-minister-mb-rajesh/article67334201.ece)

He also mentions that the scheme benefitted migrant workers who were struggling during the Covid-19 lockdown.

In addition, he pressed for the launch of an 'Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme' similar to MGNREGA to assist the growing urban population.



MADHYA PRADESH

VIDISHA-ELECTRIC CABLES ARE BEING STOLEN FROM FIELDS: VILLAGERS DEMAND POLICE TO CATCH THIEVES.

In recent days, thieves in Vidisha have shifted their focus from urban to rural regions. Electric cables and wires that are attached to electric poles and the fields are being cut and removed. The villagers are distressed due to this. 13 farmers in the Sorai area had their electricity lines cut and stolen last night from their farms. Almost 4,000 feet of cable were removed during the course of the night.

Farmers from Sorai went to the police station in Kotwali and reported the issue.

Villagers claimed that there had been instances of electrical lines being stolen from fields. Farmers are currently facing issues. Complaints had been raised earlier as well and the thief was also handed over to the police, but the police realised him later.



LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEP 24, 2023):

[HTTPS://DAINIK-B.IN/YTBNWT7LDB](https://dainik-b.in/ytbnwt7ldb)

(TRANSLATED FROM HINDI TO ENGLISH)

MAHARASHTRA

GADCHIROLI POLICE FOILED NAXALITES' ASSASSINATION PLOT

The Gadchiroli Police stopped a dangerous plan by Naxalites just before the 21st anniversary of the Naxalbari organization. They found and seized buried explosives in the Bedgaon Ghat forest area of Korchi taluka. This week began on 21st September, and the Naxalites became active in the district. Two days ago, Food and Drug Administration Minister Dharmarao Baba Atram got a threatening letter. Following this, the Naxals openly challenged by displaying cloth placards on Shinde Wada road in Bhamragarh on the first day of this week.



LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEP 25, 2023)
[HTTPS://EPAPER.ESAKAL.COM/SMARTEPAPERBETA/UI/](https://epaper.esakal.com/smartepaperbeta/ui/)

(TRANSLATED FROM MARATHI TO ENGLISH)

MANIPUR

23 KUKI STUDENTS FROM VIOLENCE-HIT MANIPUR ARRIVE AT KANNUR UNIVERSITY IN KERALA FOR CONTINUATION OF STUDIES

At least 23 students belonging to the Kuki tribe from Manipur have arrived at Kannur University in Kerala to continue their studies which have been disrupted by the turmoil in the state since 3rd May. More students are expected to arrive in the coming days. A special arrangement has been made by the university varsity to admit students affected by the violence to the college campus or affiliated colleges. This decision was taken in a syndicate meeting on August 7.

The students came to know about the university and the educational facilities in Kerala from Malayali teachers working in Manipur.



LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEPT 21, 2023)
[HTTPS://NENOW.IN/NORTH-EAST-NEWS/MANIPUR/KUKI-STUDENTS-VIOLENCE-MANIPUR-KANNUR-UNIVERSITY-KERALA-CONTINUATION-STUDIES.HTML](https://nenow.in/north-east-news/manipur/kuki-students-violence-manipur-kannur-university-kerala-continuation-studies.html)

ODISHA

TENSION PREVAILS IN VILLAGE AFTER ELEPHANT TRAMPLES MAN TO DEATH IN ODISHA'S ANGUL

Terror in Angul as elephant tramples a 56 year old farmer. There have been reports earlier of similar incidents happening, and the villagers staged a protest by creating a blockade near Basala. This village falls under the Bantala forest range, and the forest officials were called to subdue the animal.

The protest only stopped after the family of the deceased was promised compensation after a long discussion.



LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEPT 20, 2023)
[HTTPS://ODISHABYTES.COM/TENSION-PREVAIIS-IN-VILLAGE-AFTER-ELEPHANT-TRAMPLES-MAN-TO-DEATH-IN-ODISHAS-ANGUL/](https://odishabytes.com/tension-prevails-in-village-after-elephant-tramples-man-to-death-in-odishas-angul/)

PUNJAB

PUNJAB'S PENDING RDF: SUPREME COURT HEARING AGAINST CENTRE ON SEPTEMBER 25

After repeated requests by CM Mann's Punjab government, the Central government has failed to release Rural Development Funds (RDF) that have not been released to Punjab for over 4 cropping seasons. While Mann's government had requested for RDF release on 11th July 2023, they received no response which is when the government filed a Supreme Court case against the Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution with the hearing set on 25th September 2023. The Ministry allegedly owes Punjab Rs. 3,622 crores in RDF funds, which has resulted in the suspension of rural development work in Punjab like that of building roads.

LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEPT 18, 2023)
[HTTPS://WWW.TRIBUNEINDIA.COM/NEWS/PUNJAB/PENDING-RDF-SUPREME-COURT-HEARING-AGAINST-CENTRE-ON-SEPTEMBER-25-545606](https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/punjab/pending-rdf-supreme-court-hearing-against-centre-on-september-25-545606)



RAJASTHAN

III VILLAGES OF RAJASTHAN, WHERE YOUTH ARE SINGLE FOR ONE REASON: LUXURY CARS IN HOMES, BUT NO MOBILE NETWORK; GO 20-25 KM AWAY TO MAKE A CALL

The article reports that in Rajasthan, India, 111 villages still lack mobile phone connectivity. These remote areas have yet to experience the benefits of mobile communication, hindering residents' access to vital services and information. The absence of mobile networks has posed challenges for education, healthcare, and emergency response. The government is working on plans to address this issue and extend mobile coverage to these underserved villages, aiming to bridge the digital divide and improve the quality of life of the villagers.



LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEPT 19, 2023)

[HTTPS://WWW.BHASKAR.COM/LOCAL/RAJASTHAN/JAIPUR/NEWS/III-VILLAGES-OF-RAJASTHAN-WHERE-MOBILE-HAS-NOT-REACHED-TILL-DATE-131861934.HTML](https://www.bhaskar.com/local/rajasthan/jaipur/news/iii-villages-of-rajasthan-where-mobile-has-not-reached-till-date-131861934.html)

(TRANSLATED FROM HINDI TO ENGLISH)

RAJASTHAN

RAJASTHAN: PARVATI RIVER SWEEPS AWAY 3 PEOPLE IN KOTA AFTER WATER LEVEL BEGAN RISING SUDDENLY

According to authorities, three persons in Rajasthan's Kota district went missing after being washed away in the Parvati river close to Kishanpura village. The three people said that the incident happened on Saturday afternoon when they were fishing and taking a bath in the overflowing river. The river's water level reportedly suddenly began rising and the three persons, along with two others named Kishan and Neelu, were swept away by the strong current of the water. The SHO said Kishan and Neelu were able to swim to the shore, while the three others went missing.

The State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and civil defence teams began the search operation soon after the incident but the three missing have not yet been traced.



LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEPT 16, 2023)

[HTTPS://WWW.OUTLOOKINDIA.COM/NATIONAL/RAJASTHAN-PARVATI-RIVER-SWEEPS-AWAY-3-PEOPLE-IN-KOTA-AFTER-WATER-LEVEL-BEGAN-RISING-SUDDENLY-NEWS-320353/](https://www.outlookindia.com/national/rajasthan-parvati-river-sweeps-away-3-people-in-kota-after-water-level-began-rising-suddenly-news-320353/)

TAMIL NADU

FARMERS IN MADURAI'S TIRUPARANGUNRAM DEMAND FULL SUBSIDY FOR TOMATO AND KATARI SEEDLINGS

Farmers in the Tiruparangunram area of Madurai are advocating for the provision of tomato and Katari seedlings with full subsidies. This demand arises from the agricultural activities in nearby villages like Vedrapuliyankulam, Sakhilipatti, Chinnaakhilipatti, Tenpapanji, Vellaparapatti, Vadapajanji, Manapatti, Keezhakuilgudi, and Melakuilgudi, where hundreds of farmers cultivate various vegetables, including Kathari, tomato, chili, and onions, across several acres of land. The farmers seek government support to ensure the availability of these crucial seedlings at a full subsidy, which would contribute to their agricultural endeavors in the region.

LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEPT 25, 2023)

[HTTPS://WWW.DAILYTHANTHI.COM/NEWS/STATE/TIRUPARANGUNRAM-AREATOMATO-KATARI-SEEDLINGS-SHOULD-BE-PROVIDED-WITH-FULL-SUESIDY-FARMERS-DEMAND-I059882](https://www.dailythanthi.com/news/state/tiruparangunram-area-tomato-katari-seedlings-should-be-provided-with-full-subsidy-farmers-demand-i059882)

(TRANSLATED FROM TAMIL TO ENGLISH)



TAMIL NADU

TN SETS UP RS 100CR FUND TO BOOST STARTUP INVESTMENTS IN STATE

Tamil Nadu is setting up a 100 crore co-creation fund under the Tamil Nadu Innovation Policy 2023-28 to support the emergence of more venture capital funds in the state to improve investments for the various regional start-ups, women-led ventures and those innovating in rural impact and climate action.

The fund set up by MK Stalin is to be managed by professionals along with the government's support with a predetermined percentage based on the fund's targets.

The policy that follows the 2018-23 policy lays a strong emphasis on social justice and calls for creating a democratised startup ecosystem, as well as for the "development of both technologically groundbreaking and socially impactful enterprises by individuals from all walks of life"



LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEPT 25, 2023)

[HTTPS://TIMESOFINDIA.INDIATIMES.COM/CITY/CHENNAI/TN-SETS-UP-RS-100CR-FUND-TO-BOOST-STARTUP-INVESTMENTS-IN-STATE/ARTICLESHOW/I03822244.CMS](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/CITY/CHENNAI/TN-SETS-UP-RS-100CR-FUND-TO-BOOST-STARTUP-INVESTMENTS-IN-STATE/ARTICLESHOW/I03822244.CMS)

TAMIL NADU

ACCELERATING CRITICAL POLICIES FOR RURAL PROGRESS

Tamil Nadu's Chief Minister Stalin recently emphasized the need for expeditious implementation of critical policies during the fourth gathering of the state planning committee. The focus is on essential areas like water resource management, housing policies, and job creation. Stalin highlighted the significance of initiatives such as e-vehicle adoption, Industry 4.0, support for micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), skill development, agriculture, healthcare, and women's empowerment.

LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEPT 23, 2023)
[HTTPS://M.DINAMALAR.COM/DETAIL.PHP?ID=3438287](https://m.dinamalar.com/detail.php?id=3438287)

(TRANSLATED FROM TAMIL TO ENGLISH)

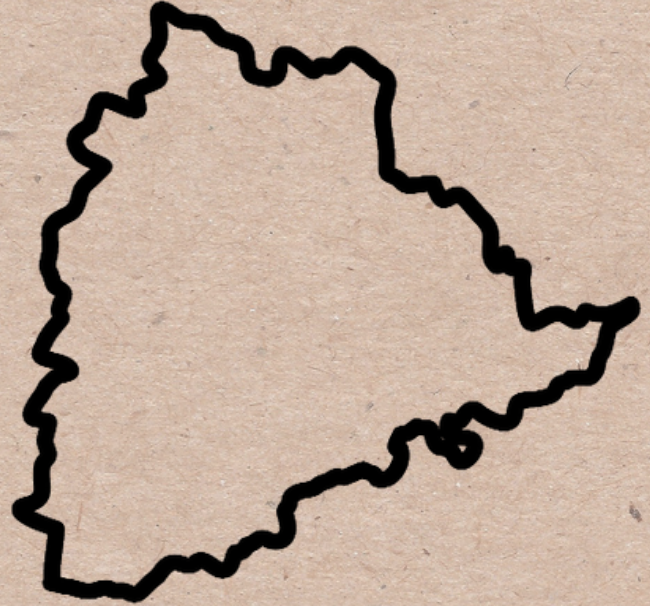
The "I am the leader" initiative has already provided employment opportunities to 1.74 lakh individuals, with plans for further enhancements. Currently, the "Kazhivu Melanmai Kolikai" scheme offers 1,000 rupees to women, addressing societal challenges effectively.



TELANGANA

COUPLE HACKED TO DEATH IN KRISHNA DISTRICT OVER ALLEGED DISPUTES

In a chilling incident at Ayyanki village, Krishna district, a couple, Veeranki Varalakshmi and Veeranki Veer Krishna, were ruthlessly hacked to death, believed to be a result of ongoing disputes. The gruesome murders occurred on a public road and near the Panchayat office. Kuchipudi police are investigating, with suspicions pointing towards Veeranki Ganesh and his siblings. Further details of the case are awaited.



LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEPT 21, 2023)
[HTTPS://WWW.NEWSTAP.IN/CRIME/COUPLE-HACKED-TO-DEATH-IN-KRISHNA-DISTRICT-OVER-ALLEGED-DISPUTES-I495932?INFINITE_SCROLL=I](https://www.newstap.in/crime/couple-hacked-to-death-in-krishna-district-over-alleged-disputes-i495932?infinite_scroll=i)

TRIPURA

ADDRESSING ISSUES BY ELECTING WOMEN IN TRIPURA

Tripura was the first among the 8 northeastern states to have 50% reservation for women in the 3-tier Gram Panchayats and urban local bodies in 2010, leading to women's dominance in rural as well as urban areas.

According to analysts, reservation for women in local bodies has made women active participants in the political arena as well as in policy making.

It is now being suggested that a third of the Tripura Assembly's 60 seats may be reserved for women and out of the two Lok Sabha seats that Tripura has, one seat should be reserved for women.

Analysts also suggest that since elected women representatives have to depend on their husbands for their living, the allowance of the representatives at the grassroots and rural level should be increased.



LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEPT 24, 2023)
[HTTPS://MORUNGEXPRESS.COM/EMPOWERED-WITH-50-QUOTA-WOMEN-ADDRESS-GENDER-ISSUES-IN-TRIPURA](https://morungexpress.com/empowered-with-50-quota-women-address-gender-issues-in-tripura)

WEST BENGAL

GOVT STRESSES ON CONTROLLING DENGUE VECTOR

After a 28-year-old doctor diagnosed with dengue died, a meeting was held at Nabanna with the state secretariat for West Bengal to discuss the increase in dengue cases in Parganas, Howrah, Hooghly, Nadia, Murshidabad, Malda and South 24 Parganas districts. The meeting involved senior officials from various departments, including Health, Urban Development, Rural Development, PWD, Kolkata Municipal Corporation, district authorities, and medical college principals. It was decided that anyone with a fever that lasts longer than two days must get tested for dengue.

The emphasis was on controlling vectors and handling dengue cases properly. Property owners who disregarded dengue prevention measures were threatened with legal action. The state government demanded cleaning drives in various public spaces.



LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEPT 18, 2023)

[HTTPS://INDIANEXPRESS.COM/ARTICLE/CITIES/KOLKATA/DENGUE-CONTROL-DENGUE-EMERGENCY-MEETING-WEST-BENGAL-DENGUE-SITUATION-8944555/](https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/kolkata/dengue-control-dengue-emergency-meeting-west-bengal-dengue-situation-8944555/)

WEST BENGAL

ELEPHANT DEATH: RAILWAYS-FOREST DEPARTMENT AGREE TO USE AI TECHNOLOGY TO PREVENT ELEPHANT DEATHS

A year ago, the 'Intrusion Detection System' (IDS) was introduced on the North East Frontier Railway to prevent wild elephant deaths on railway tracks. Now, the railway and forest department plan to expand this technology across 11 elephant corridors in Alipurduar. This decision follows a meeting of 20 state forest and railway officials in Alipurduar. The IDS technology uses optical fibre along railway lines to alert gatekeepers, station masters, loco pilots, and guards when elephants approach, reducing accidents. The technology will first cover North Eastern states starting from West Bengal and eventually expand nationwide, with a budget of 79.12 crore allocated by Railways.



LINK TO THE ARTICLE: (SEPT 19, 2023)

[HTTPS://EISAMAY.COM/WEST-BENGAL-NEWS/ALIPURDUAR-NEWS/RAILWAYS-AND-FOREST-DEPARTMENT-HAVE-TAKEN-A-NEW-DECISION-TO-PREVENT-ELEPHANT-DEATH-ON-RAILWAY-TRACKS/ARTICLESHOW/103554162.CMS](https://eismay.com/west-bengal-news/alipurduar-news/railways-and-forest-department-have-taken-a-new-decision-to-prevent-elephant-death-on-railway-tracks/articleshow/103554162.cms)

(TRANSLATED FROM BANGLA TO ENGLISH)



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