

## 26-year-old Shanthi needs help after being locked in dark room for six years

**DAJIWORLD**

**MOODBIDRI:** After publishing a heartbreaking story of two physically challenged siblings from Kodikal who were later rehabilitated by White Doves, Daijiworld is receiving many requests from various parts of the coastal region to publish such stories.

Considering the ethics of a media house and its social responsibility, we guided many to the right NGOs and government bodies.

But in the case of Shanthi, a 26-year-old mentally ill girl, who is kept locked inside her room since the last six years, we are compelled to publish because she and her family are the victims of negligence of government local bodies and social welfare authorities.

Shanthi is the daughter of Dharmapalan and Shakthi Kani. Twenty-six years back, Dharmapalan, a native of Tamil Nadu, migrated to Pili-

panjara near Moodbidri and set up a small business of selling bakery items to shops.

When Shanthi was born, it was a happy moment for the couple and up to six years she grew up like a normal child. Dharmapalan admitted her to school near Moodbidri.

But one night she started to scream and started showing abnormal symptoms. The next day her parents took her to a doctor for medical checkup who prescribed medicines. But Shanthi did not stop the screaming and started to act differently. She started to run away from the house and her parents were forced to lock her up.

When she crossed her teenage, her parents could not control her inside the house. She started to remove the clothes she wore and her parents were compelled to lock her inside a room which is happening since the last six years.

"We cannot leave her free. If she is left outside, she will run

around the houses of the neighbours and destroy their things and break glasses of their windows. Once she runs, it is very difficult to catch her. We have faced same problem two-three times. She also does not listen to wear clothes. She becomes more violent when she sees the sunlight. So we are compelled to lock her inside the to another room for few minutes to clean her room once a week. But from last fifteen days, no one has cleaned her room because my wife is admitted in hospital for the treatment of breast cancer. I am helpless." Dharmapalan says in tears.

Now Shanthi should be given freedom from the locked room. She is eligible for all types of humanitarian concern and better treatment.

Government authorities, especially local administration, should intervene immediately on this issue and find out solution. Hope NGOs also will consider this matter on priority.

## Focus Group discusses electoral reforms

Annett



Anil Fernandes moderating the focus group discussion

**BINY**

**CAMPUS:** A focus group discussion (FGD) on the topic electoral reforms in India was held by the department of Journalism and Mass Communication on Thursday. FGD was moderated by Anil Fernandes. Six participants took part in the discussion. Issues like funds, corruption, money power, campaigning, NOTA and compulsory voting were discussed. The participants were genuinely interested in the topic which made the discussion very lively. It began with the question of how to manage the

funds within the parties. To which Seema, a participant said, "Earlier there were not much expenses to take care of; but since recently a lot of expenses are there for the Election Commission, including transportation, campaigning etc."

When the question was raised whether campaigning was needed, Diona, 1st year student from the department of Economics said that campaigning was one way in which the parties and representatives could show their power and ability to the people.

## KMC Attavar gets Da Vinci X Robotic Surgical System

**MANGALOREAN**

**MANGALURU:** The 'Da Vinci Robotic Surgical System' was inaugurated at KMC Attavar yesterday. The Medical Superintendent, KMC Hospitals Dr Anand Venugopal inaugurated the 'Da Vinci Robotic Surgical System' by cutting the ribbon.

Speaking on the occasion Dr Anand Venugopal said, "I am very happy that we have this unique facility in our group of hospitals in Mangaluru. We are at the forefront of having the best consultants and providing them with the best technology for treating the patients. We all have heard about the Da Vinci Robotic Surgical System. It is a way forward as far as clinical care and outcomes are concerned."

"I think the newer generation is lucky to work on this kind of system. The newer generation should realize that they should learn the basics first before getting into this system. Our group of hospitals has acquired this system and I am sure that this will be useful for the surgeons as well the postgraduates

and other junior faculties who come up in line with the latest technology," he added.

Dr Harish speaking on the occasion said, "Da Vinci Robotic System is 20 Years of Advanced Robotic-Assisted Surgery Learning and Development. There are advantages in this system. The initial days when laparoscopy was introduced everyone was negative about the results because of less safety. It is a similar situation now when the Robotic system is introduced."

The robo system has its own advantage, it has got a magnified view and the patient will have a quick recovery. When you compare it to normal surgery where the patient should stay in the hospital for four to five days but in Robotic surgery, the patient can go home early. When new technology comes there is controversy and cost issue. In the future, the Robo system will become more affordable and all the patients will benefit from it.

Dr Shivanand Prabhu also spoke on the occasion. Dr Manohar, Dr Prahlad, Dr Aparna, were also present.

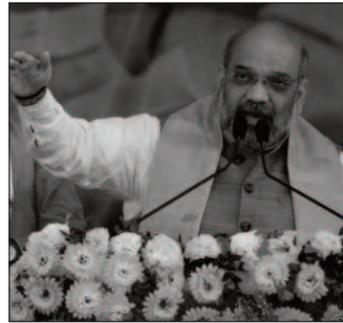
## Only Modi can protect country's borders, says Amit Shah at rally

**THE HINDU**

**ASSAM:** BJP president Amit Shah says only Prime Minister Narendra Modi can protect the borders of the country and not the Congress party or its chief Rahul Gandhi.

He criticises the Congress for asking proof of the casualty figures in the air strike on Balakot in Pakistan and claims that India under Mr. Modi has become the third country in the world after the U.S. and Israel to take revenge for its soldiers' blood.

The Hindu



BJP president Amit Shah speaks at an election rally

"Should we not take revenge for our soldiers' blood? The Congress cannot protect the country's border," Mr. Shah says at an election rally in

Assam's Kaliabor.

India under the leadership of Mr Modi took revenge for the blood of its soldiers after the Uri and Pulwama attacks by Pakistan-based terror elements, the BJP president says.

"In 10 years of Sonia Gandhi and Manmohan Singh government, our soldiers' heads were chopped off. But there was no reply from India side," he alleges while campaigning for BJP's ally AGP's Monimadhab Mahanta who is contesting from the Kaliabor Lok Sabha seat.

## Summer art camp at Prasad Art Gallery

**NAFEESA**

**MANGALURU:** Prasad Art Gallery (PAG), School of Arts, Ballalbagh, on the occasion of its silver jubilee is conducting Summer Camp 2019. The camp will be held during summer vacation. There are three levels of workshop for the camp - P-kids fest, P-champs and P-techno.

P-kids fest is a fun activity workshop for children of LKG

- 1st std. The workshop includes several activities such as line art, pot painting, oil pastel painting, glass painting, paper craft origami, among others.

P-champ is creative activities workshop for children from 2nd to 6th std. The workshop includes activities such as water colour, pot colouring, craft activities, Warli painting and still life drawing as mentioned in poster issued by PAG.

P-techno is a variety section of summer art, a certificate course which includes basic visual arts.

The workshop includes acrylic painting, plaster of Paris, pot making, madhubhani painting, foam (face) making and caricature. Resource persons for the workshop are Sharath Holla, Ganesh Somayaji, Edward Sequeira, Dinesh Holla, Jhan Chandran and Sudhir Kavoor.