

Best place to be on Christmas is at place of duty says Dr Prabhu

ANIL

CAMPUS: "The best place to be on the eve of Christmas is to be at the place of duty. The message of the birth of Jesus was communicated by the angel first to the poor shepherds who were guarding their sheep. They were doing their duty during cold winter," said Dr G. G. Lakshman Prabhu, a consultant urologist at KMC Hospital, Mangalore.

He was verbalising his message at the Christmas celebrations organised by the College here on Monday. The celebration included exhortations by the representatives from different faiths to promote interfaith harmony.

Dr Prabhu said, "Let us not worry if we do not get a holiday on a Christmas due to service in the hospitals or in any other place of work. Christmas is the feast of giving. Being contended, let us give selflessly, willingly and lovingly." Fr Derick D'Souza, director of Divine Mercy Retreat Centre, Bejai, Prof. Hyderali, assistant professor at Govt. College, Bantwal, Dr (Fr) Praveen Martis SJ, Principal of the College and Anup Denzil Veigas, the

Fr D'Souza said, "Christmas is one of the universal festivals which gives a message of sharing, caring and giving. Christmas is not so much a

community in India said, "Christianity is the religion of giving. Christian institutions in India have given us English education which gave us the competitive advantage over other countries. Knowledge, skill,



Fr Derick D'Souza inaugurating the programme by laying the statue of Baby Jesus in the crib.

celebration of a religion. It is a celebration of God. This celebration calls us to become aware of 'Immanuel' which means God within us. This notion is in parallel with the idea of aham brahmasmi which means I am Brahman or I am divine.

When we become aware that we are divine, we begin to give ourselves to others. Jesus was born as a saviour to give himself to the world and to free humankind."

Mr Hyderali appreciating the service of the Christian com-

munity in India said, "Christianity is the religion of giving. These four aspects have been taught largely by Christians."

He further said that the Holy Quran ascribes the birth account of Jesus and mentions Mother Mary as the chaste woman.

"The idea of God in all the religions is the same. These interreligious celebrations create a common understanding and a dialogue among people of other faith," he added.

Women thrash police inspector, tear his clothes

DAIJI WORLD

HAVERI: In an incident which happened at the taluk panchayat premises at Byadagi in the district on Sunday December 16, the women joined together in dragging out a police inspector, who is said to have indecently behaved with one among them, and thrashed him. The policeman who was at the receiving end of the women's ire happened to be P Chidanand.

A woman named Seethamma from Nellikoppa village had visited Byadagi police station two weeks back, to complain against her brother, Nagaraj, who used to beat up his parents and sisters for no reason whatsoever.

Over a hundred women including the affected lady joined together at the taluk panchayat premises and held protest. When they were ready to meet the district superintendent of police, inspector Chidanand came to them and tried to pacify the crowd.

Goa likely to allow free entry for Karnataka fish

DAIJI WORLD

KARWAR: Goa government is learnt to be making up its mind to allow inflow of fish from Karnataka and other neighbouring states into the state as it is under pressure from local fishermen to do so.

Fishermen organizations from Goa are up in arms against the Goan government for restricting entry of fish from nearby states. On Monday December 17, the Goan fishermen held a huge protest at Miramar beach, condemning the government's action. Under pressure, health minister of Goa, Vishwanath Rane, is said to have been favourably considering their demand.

The fishermen who came together in large numbers on Monday at Miramar near Panaji raised slogans against the government. All Goa Fishermen's Association and Goa Purse Seine Boat Owners Association led the protesters.

They said that because of the action of the Goa government in blocking import of fish from other states, fishermen in Karnataka have been blocking

entry of Goan fish vehicles into their state.

As such, fish worth lacs of rupees are being destroyed every day. In the past, fish from Karwar, Tadadi and



Fish from the market

Bhatkal used to enter Goa, and fish from Goa used to be taken to Karnataka. Because of the blocking of fish transport, fishermen of both the states are suffering, they said.

The fishermen raised slogans against Goa health minister, Vishwajit Rane, for making fishermen suffer. Fishermen leaders held discussions with minister Rane after the protest. Harshad Dhond, president of All Goa Fishermen's Association, speaking to media persons later, said that under pressure from fishermen, the health minister has promised to clear import of fish into the state from Goa border.

Women Empowerment campaign comes to SAC

ANNETT

CAMPUS: Have you ever wanted to take action against gender violence? The Canara Organisation for Development and Peace (CODP) can be a help if you intend to do so. This NGO addresses the needs of the marginalised populations in India. It was established in 1974. It has a series of programmes mainly addressing issues such as child labour, domestic servitude, forced labour and gender violence.

Volunteers Sofia Hellenthal and Leoni Alewell placed in CODP Mangalore visited SAC campus on Tuesday for a one-day campaign to spread awareness on women empowerment and their rights.

"We decided to bring the #hearmetoo campaign, which was introduced by the UN, to Mangalore unit of CODP," said Ms Leoni."

The campaign on 'Women Empowerment' has been on since November. The volunteers go from college to college



Sofia and Leoni interacting with a student

distributing flyers, motivating students to speak up about the violence against women.

"Talking about experiences with violence and not keeping quiet is the first and the most important step of raising awareness and helping the victims of gender violence," opined Ms Hellenthal, a fellow volunteer of the CODP.

For the students to remember the campaign for a long time, they were asked to involve in making hand prints on a white sheet.

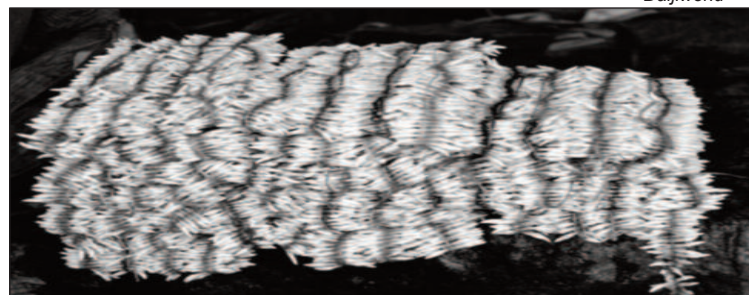
St Aloysius college was the last of the seven campuses the team visited in the last few months.

Shankarpura jasmine price skyrocket; but prices fall dramatically on Monday

DAIJI WORLD

KAUP: Because of upward swing in demand and short supply, the famous Shankarpura jasmine price went skyward on Sunday. On Sunday December 16, an Atte (set of four small bundles of jasmine flowers woven neatly)

acute shortage. Thereafter, for the first time, the price hit the roof and reached maximum price limit on Sunday, and created a new record. As compared to it, the rate for jasmine on Saturday had remained at Rs 850. It is said that because of winter the production of jasmine has gone down, and jas-



Shankaraura jasmine

mine plants are affected by certain diseases, resulting in reduction in the quantity of jasmine reaching the market. Risen demand and fallen supply have given rise to this situation.

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