




Hindu Mahasabha to organise 'gaumutra party' to fight coronavirus in India: Report

The Mahasabha president Chakrapani Maharaj said a ‘gaumutra party’ on the lines of tea parties will be held



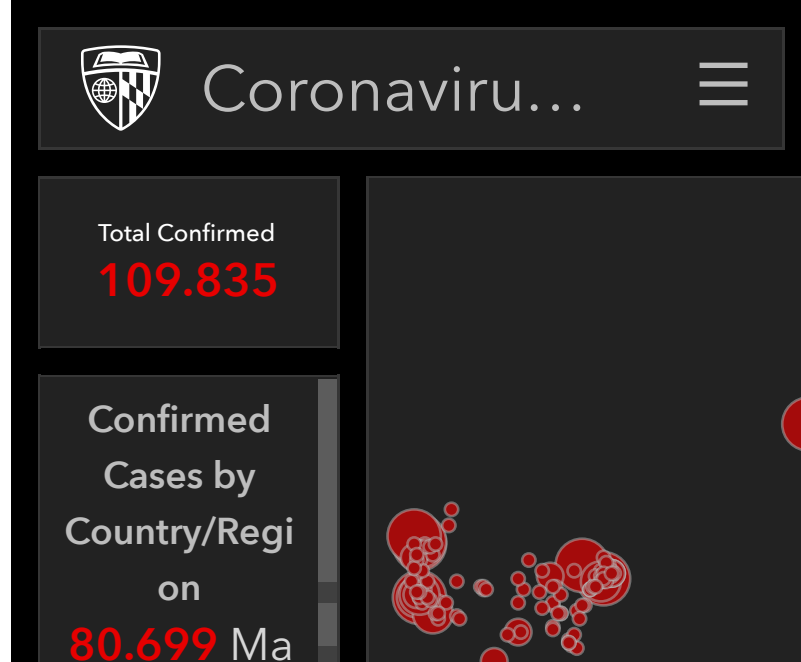


DH Web Desk, MAR 04 2020, 19:41PM IST UPDATED: MAR 05 2020, 03:24AM IST



Representative image (DH Photo)

While the world is looking for ways and means to control the spread of the novel coronavirus, the Hindu Mahasabha has now popped up a new idea to contain the disease.



The Mahasabha president Chakrapani Maharaj said a ‘gaumutra party’ on the lines of tea parties will be held, according to a report by [ThePrint](#).

“Just like we organise tea parties, we have decided to organise a gaumutra party, wherein we will inform people about what is coronavirus and how, by consuming cow-related products, people can be saved from it,” Maharaj told the online news channel.

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“The event will have counters that will provide gaumutra for people to consume. At the same time, we will also put cow products like cow-dung cakes and agarbatti made from that. Upon using these, the virus will die immediately.”

The Mahasabha president further told ThePrint that a big event will be organised in Delhi just past Holi to raise awareness among people as they believe the killing of animals was the cause of the spread of the disease.

“We want to create awareness about jeev hatya (killing of beings), which is the main cause of coronavirus. I know people will not believe me, but it would not have spread in India as we are mostly vegetarians,” he said.

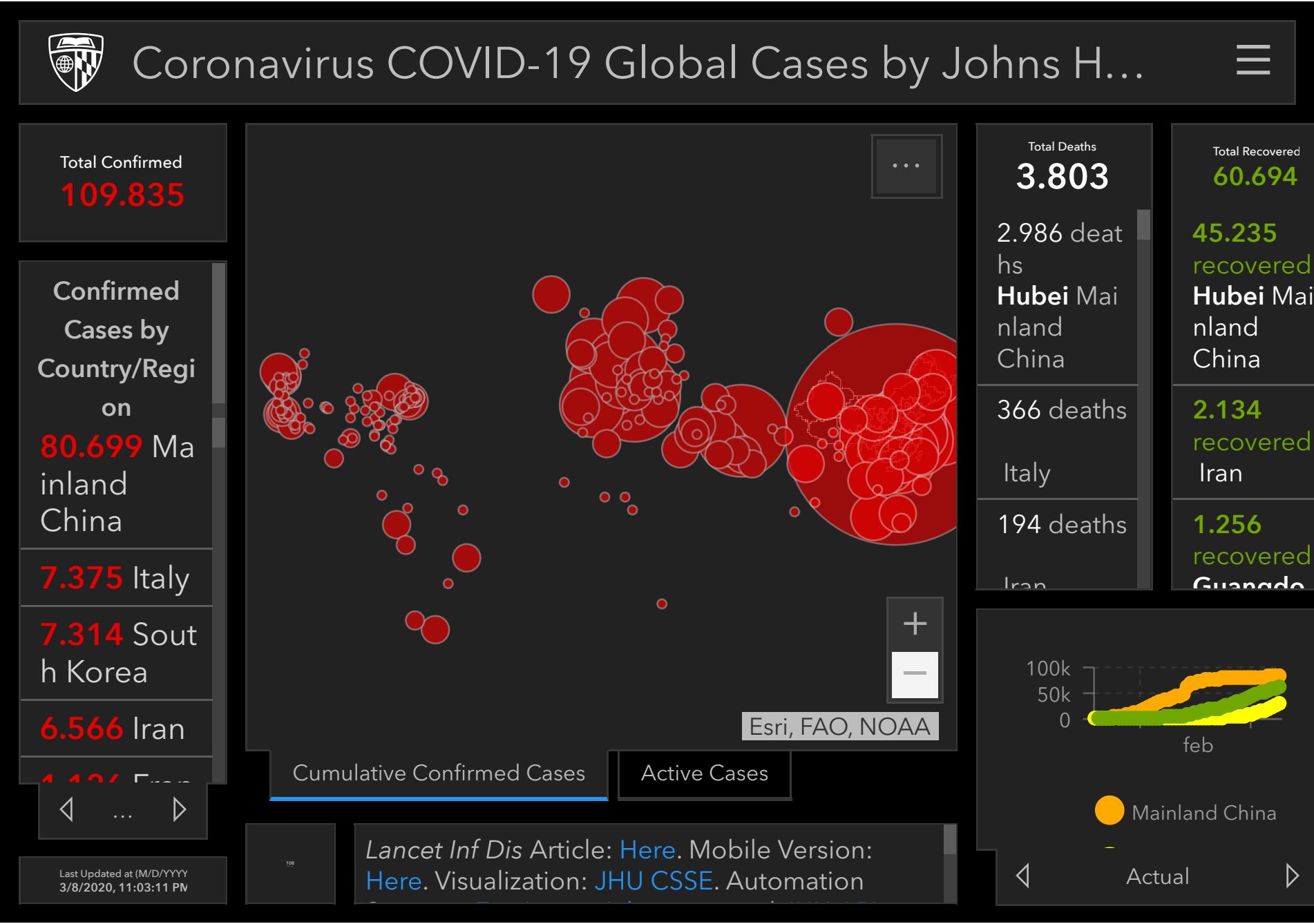
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He also said, “Vegetarians need not worry; it will not impact them. But still, as a precautionary measure, they can also start consuming gaumutra.”

The event will be first organised at Hindu Mahasabha Bhawan in Delhi, following which such ‘parties’ will be held across the country. “We are in touch with gaushalas (cow shelters) across the country, who can collaborate and work with us in our mission to eliminate coronavirus,” he added.


"Coronavirus was quiet in India due to traditional practices like yagyas. But Telangana’s ignorant, egotistical ministers killed animals to consume chicken publicly and challenged ‘corona’, because of

which the worst form of ‘corona’ is now looming over India. That’s why these ministers should, in the nick of time, apologise to ‘corona’, otherwise there will be a catastrophe that no one can stop," he told ThePrint.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted on Tuesday, saying, “Had an extensive review regarding preparedness on the COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus. Different ministries and states are working together, from screening people arriving in India to providing prompt medical attention."

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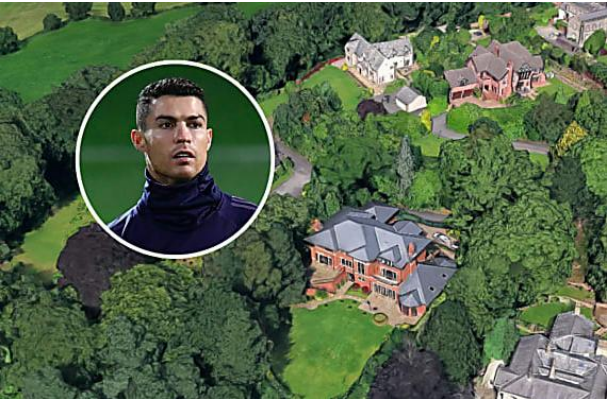
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All medical institutions should get NABH recognition: Minister



 [Gayathri V Raj, DHNS](#), MAR 08 2020, 21:11PM IST UPDATED: MAR 08 2020, 21:15PM IST



Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar inquires health of a mother and the child at Cheluvamba Hospital, in Mysuru, on Saturday. (DH Photo)

Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar said that all medical institutions under his department should meet National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH) standards.



The minister was speaking to reporters, on Saturday, during an inspection of Cheluvamba Hospital, a constituent of Mysore Medical College and Research Institute (MMC&RI), here.

He said, “The government will ensure that all government hospitals will function without any hassle. We will take measures to provide utmost care, without discomfort to patients. Making all institutions as centres of excellence is our vision.”

In order to achieve the status, it is necessary to strengthen the existing system, rather than increasing the number of institutions. The institutions are facing staff crunch and measures to fill vacant posts

will be taken soon.

Sudhakar said, “There are challenges to achieve the goal and the government has worked out a module to overcome the problems.”

The minister said that the work load on Cheluvamba Hospital staff will be reduced once the multi-facility hospital is opened. The new hospital will be inaugurated either in May or June. As Cheluvamba Hospital building is a heritage structure, renovation is not possible. The new hospital will have Pediatrics department and a few beds will be reserved for the department, he said.

People’s complaint

The people, caretakers of patients, highlighted various issues before the minister.

Renuka complained that her daughter has developed a health issue, but, the doctors are not responding properly since last three days. “We are waiting outside the hospital from three days, but, the doctors are not confirming her health condition. They are not even confirming the disease,” she said.


Guruswamy said that his wife delivered a baby three days back, but, he has no information about the health condition of the child and the mother.

“We are not allowed to visit the mother. Security personnel are not allowing us,” he alleged. A few others complained about lack of hygiene in the hospital.

Later, Dr Sudhakar interacted with medical students and also enquired about the well-being of patients.

Earlier during the day, Dr Sudhakar visited Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research.

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Women in key positions prove their mettle



Gayathri V Raj, DHNS, MAR 08 2020, 21:10PM IST UPDATED: MAR 08 2020, 21:12PM IST



Representative image (iStock Photo)

March 8 is International Women’s Day. It’s the day for women to celebrate their success, achievements and to educate their counterparts against gender bias.



Several women hold key positions and have proved their efficiency in their respective fields in Mysuru. Here, women are in top positions like mayor, Zilla Panchayat president, vice-president, additional deputy commissioner, ZP chief executive officer (CEO), regional transport officer (RTO), assistant commissioner, top police officers among others.

For the first time, Mysuru got Tasneem as its first Muslim woman Mayor. Similarly, Parimala Shyam is serving as the Zilla Panchayat president. KAS officers B R Poornima and K Jyothi are serving as additional DC and ZP CEO, B N Veena is serving as Hunsur AC. Similarly, K S Soundarya is Mysuru (East) RTO. Three women – J K Rashmi, Dharanidevi Malagatti, B T Kavitha, P V Sneha and K C Divyashree — hold top positions in the Police and Prisons Department.

While Additional SP P V Sneha successfully handled several law and order issues, Veena successfully managed flood situation in Hunsur region. Divyashree had guarded former chief minister of Tamil Nadu late J Jayalalitha at Parappana Agrahara. Likewise, Jyothi has also proved her ability on many occasions.

Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) Superintendent of Police (SP) J K Rashmi says, “Women is a wonderful creature and womanhood is pride. Women have left their footprint in all walks of life. Now, it is our responsibility to take forward the contributions and achievements”.

Additional DC B R Poornima says every women must be provided education as it is a tool for empowerment and financial independence. “Education brings women to the mainstream of the society. Let this Women’s Day concentrate on education,” the ADC wishes.

A 2004 batch KAS officer, Poornima is from Mandya district. She is the daughter of writer Besagarahalli Ramanna and sister of IPS officer B R Ravikantegowda. Poornima is Mysuru ADC since nine months.


Additional Superintendent of Police P V Sneha wants every woman to be self-reliant. “Differentiation in terms of employment is not acceptable. All women, either maids, servants or bureaucrats, they

have their own strength and abilities. They must utilise their strengths to achieve in life,” she adds.

Women’s Day is not limited for women in top positions. But it is special even to the woman who sell flowers beside the street, Sneha said. Sneha, a 2010 batch KSPS officer, is from Mandya district and is serving as Mysuru ASP from the last one-and-a-half years.

For B T Kavitha, deputy commissioner of police (Traffic and Crime), Mysuru, celebration of Women’s Day helps women to become aware of their rights and duties. Let Women’s Day inspire women to achieve more in life, she wishes.

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Women's Day

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Arifa Jan’s journey: From reviving ‘Namda’ art to Nari Shakti Puraskar

Arifa, a post-graduate from the Craft Development Institute, Srinagar, worked for a Namda revival project after completing her degree





Zulfikar Majid, DHNS, Srinagar, MAR 08 2020, 19:37PM IST UPDATED: MAR 08 2020, 19:37PM IST



Arifa Jan receives 'Nari Shakti Puraskar 2019' on International Women's Day from President Ram Nath Kovind as First Lady Savita Kovind, Union Ministers Smriti Irani and Nirmala Sitharaman look on, at Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Center in New Delhi, Sunday, March 8, 2020. Hailing from Kashmir, Jan has taken the task to revive the once famed handicraft Numdha, the traditional embroidered rug. (PTI Photo)

Arifa Jan (33), who was awarded Nari Shakti Puraskar for 2019, has established three manufacturing units to revive a Kashmiri traditional rug called ‘Namda’ besides employing 25 craft people and training 100 women in the Valley.

Arifa, a post-graduate from the Craft Development Institute, Srinagar, worked for a Namda revival project after completing her degree. She started her first business unit in old city's Sekidafar locality in Srinagar in 2012. Namda is a felted rug used widely in furnishing, especially during winters.

In less than a decade Arifa has trained more than 100 women in Kashmir and employed 25 Kashmiri craft people besides increasing their wages from Rs 175 to Rs 450. In addition to reviving the traditional craft, Arifa has mostly engaged women and paid good wages to her artisans when the business was thriving.

She was conferred for her outstanding achievement in the revival of felting craft of Kashmir by a leading business house in Kashmir in 2013, Lifetime Achievement Award in 2016, and S-E-A Award in an event organised by a cold drinks company and Jagrati Yatra at Mumbai in 2018.

After returning from a women entrepreneurship programme by the United States State Department under which she was awarded US citizenship eligibility certificate in 2014, she established two other units in Srinagar's Noorbagh and Nawa Kadal localities.

Arifa was awarded along with 15 other women by President Ram Nath Kovind on International Women's Day on Sunday. She is the third woman achiever after Chennai-based social worker Sneha Mohandoss and bomb-blast survivor Malvika Iyer among the seven who will tweet -- minutes after receiving the Nari Shakti Puraskar for 2019 -- from Modi's Twitter handle.

Modi had announced on March 3 to give his social media platforms to women to handle on March 8. "This gesture by [PM@narendramodi](#) has boosted my morale and it'll help me to work harder for the betterment of the craft as well as the artisans all over Kashmir," she tweeted.

"I feel it is important for more women to focus on becoming self-reliant and help other women. My first business activity was participating in an exhibition of handmade items in New Delhi. This exhibit attracted a good clientele and a turnover."



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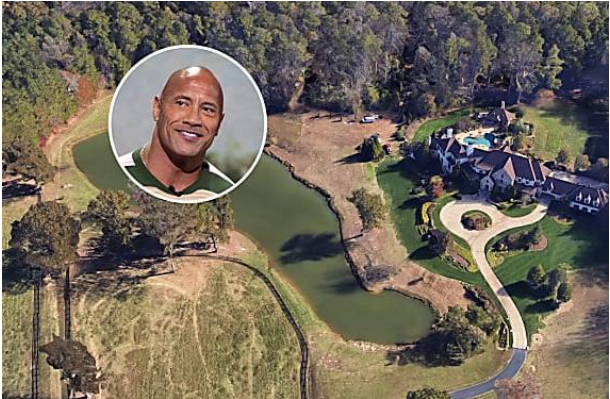
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'Women workforce down to 18% from 37% in 13 yrs'





Women in workforce reducing (iStock Image for representation)

Women workforce in the country fell to 18 per cent in 2019 from 37 per cent in 2006, non-government organisation Azad Foundation said on the International Women's Day on Sunday.

The World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report this year ranks India at 149th position out of 153 countries on economic participation and opportunity, the organisation said and appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to take create gender-sensitive infrastructure.

According to the Foundation, the Global Gender Gap Report estimates that raising women's participation in the labour force can increase India's GDP significantly.

"The declining women's labour force participation (from 37 per cent in 2006 to 18 per cent in 2019), gender pay gap (23 per cent), high rates of informal work (93 per cent) with lack of social security are seen as impediments to the goal of gender equality and empowerment of women in India," the Azad Foundation said in a statement here.

Azad Foundation believes that infrastructure and norms play a crucial role in impeding women's entry and sustenance in the workforce.

"We appeal to the Prime Minister and Minister of Women and Child Development for their attention and positive action towards creating gender sensitive infrastructure," Azad Foundation Founder and Executive Director Meenu Vadera said.

The gender-sensitive infrastructure included full-time creches for children, affordable and safe working women's hostels, and basic public provisions such as piped water, she said in the statement.

The organisation also suggested hygienic washrooms at public places and safe public transport for enabling women to access decent and dignified livelihood opportunities.


Meanwhile, the ITC said it has been encouraging participation of women in its manufacturing facilities across the country.

"ITC's Pudukkottai (Trichy) unit in Tamil Nadu... has close to 85 per cent women workforce across all three shifts in a day," the company said in a statement.

The company's foods unit at Mysuru in Karnataka is the first FMCG factory in the region to deploy women across all shifts and their ratio is around 60 per cent, it added.

"To encourage the participation of women in workforce, ITC's foods business has been carrying out several other initiatives at its factory locations. As a confidence building measure, family members of the women employees are invited to the plants to show them the work environment and culture," ITC said.

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