

TIMES CITY

THE TIMES OF INDIA, PATNA-RANCHI NATIONAL | TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2008

NEPALI MAOISTS, YCL NOT TO JETTISON
APRIL 10 ELECTIONS | 5

PU'S SECOND CAMPUS TO COME UP AT
SAIDPUR SOON | 4

PATNA DIGEST

Directive to CDPOs on ration scheme

Patna DM Jeetendra Kumar Singh on Monday ordered Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs) to honestly implement the 'Take Home ration scheme' which includes giving dry ration to expecting mothers and children belonging to the BPL category. The dry ration includes food-grains and pulse. The DM also asked the CDPOs to begin the process of filling up the vacant posts of Anand Sevikas. He was told that 73 posts of the Sevikas were lying vacant in Patna.

State Cong welcomes cabinet

expansion: The Bihar Congress Committee (BCC) has termed its latest cabinet expansion in Centre as the one which has a judicious mix of youth and experience. BCC chief spokesperson Kripanath Pathak in a Press statement issued here on Monday said this judicious mix will make way to bring more young leaders in the inner circle of the party. He also expressed happiness over the party's decision to make Dr Shakesh Ahmed Union minister of State for home. Pathak also welcomed the decision regarding induction of RJD MP from Bettiah Raghunath Jha in the council of ministers.

Dental check-up: On the occasion of Mother's Day, Inner Wheel Club of Patliputra organised a dental check-up for mother and child at Jagriti, a school adopted by the club. There were almost 600 children. A team of doctors and para-medical staff examined the teeth of their children. They were given free medicines, tooth brush, tooth paste and booklets. Club president Pushpa Singh and secretary Sunita Khemka and other office-bearers of the club were present on the occasion.

Officers suspended: The transport committee has suspended a motor vehicle inspector and another official of the department for neglecting their duty with regard to department's drive to collect revenue.

Play Home: Bal Bharatiya New Patna Model School inaugurated its "Play Home" on Monday. Children between the age of 30 months to 36 months will be registered with the home. Addressing mediapersons, school secretary Suraj Singh and the school's education-in-charge Jahra Ahmid said the home has been opened for working couples' children who will be in safe custody for a period of 150 minutes.

Cancer Awareness Day: Cancer Awareness Day was observed at Patna Medical Hospital on Monday. The staff were counselled on cancer and its symptoms by various experts. The doctors taught the staff about early detection and treatment. The organiser, Dr P Ojha, proposed the vote of thanks. Several policemen were present on the occasion.

Pea on sewerage system: Citizens of Lohianagar, Kankerbagh, held a meeting under the banner of "Nagrik Samasya Samadhan Samiti" and decided to stage a dharna on April 11 to demand the cleaning of the old sewerage lines under the supervision of the concerned authorities. They also demanded that the new system under the guidance of engineers selected by the residents. Former minister Mithilesh Prasad Singh said case should be instituted against NBCC officials. He remarked that NBCC officials admitted to the CM that sub-standard material was used in the construction of the new sewerage line.

Health awareness: NSS students of J D Women's College launched a health awareness drive in the slum areas of Rukunpara locality on Monday. They went door-to-door and spoke to the locals about the need to keep their homes and the body clean. They also applied the residents of tuberculosi. NSS programme officer Reeta Bhagat and several teachers were present on the occasion. A medical team, led by Dr Nirmita Saxena, examined 125 persons.

Camp on diabetes: Voluntary organization, Suhani Sansar, organized a camp on diabetes. Around 75 persons attended this camp. Dr A K Singh told the participants that diabetes is a silent killer because it affects every part of the body.

EVENTS

Indian Academy for Pediatrics: Healthy baby healthy nation, department of pediatrics, NMCH, 10 am

Santali, Bihar: interactive session on
Modular for preparation of district
agriculture plant, Hotel Patliputra
Asoka, 11 am

Shilpiyan: Release of book, 'Karma
Sachchay', written by Bihar Ke Zamim
Sachchay, Vidyarthi Parishad annexe
building, 3 pm

Disha: Workshop on different aspects
of de-addiction, Rehabilitation Centre,
Buddha Colony, 7.30 pm



One shattered dream ignites many minds

Pranava K Chaudhary | TN

Ten years ago Anand Kumar would take his bicycle and deliver Anand prepared meals to his mother to shop and homes. Anand's father, a PBT employee in Patna, had died and retirement benefits took a while to reach the family, leaving them with no option but to fall back on his mother's pail-making skills.

After graduating, he was admitted to Cambridge and Sheffield universities,

but had to decline due to poverty of funds.

Friends and family members tapped every source but nothing worked.

He was referred to then chief minister Laloo Prasad Yadav, who



Anand Kumar taking a class

His voice is carried to students over a microphone clipped to his shirt as he stands in front of a blackboard and teaches as many as 500 students in a single班.

The private coaching school has attained a cult status among academics and students for consistently churning out students who crack arguably one of the world's most competitive exams.

Each year, some 5,000 students turn up from all over

Cracker Of A TUTOR

Pranava K Chaudhary | TN

The prestigious Dhirubhai Ambani Foundation has identified math wizard Anand Kumar of Super 30 fame as one of the 24 'real heroes' across the country. The award aims to honour unsung heroes — ones who have made extraordinary contributions in improving the lives of others.

The award winners were chosen from fields as diverse as education, environment, healthcare, rural development, sports, social welfare, women & child welfare and wildlife conservation. The award will be

SUCCESS IS ELEMENTARY

presented to Anand at a function on April 14 in Mumbai. Apart from the award, he will also receive a cheque for Rs 5 lakh.

A graduate from BBN College, Patna, Anand runs the Super 30 batch at the Ramanujan School of Mathematics in the state capital. Jointly founded by Anand and additional director general of police (AGP) Sandeep Pandey, the school gives free coaching and guidance to promising students from weaker sections of society. Each year, 30 students are selected from extremely backward classes and provided free coaching, food and lodging facilities.

Anand, now 24, is a famous Indian mathematician, is even more intense than the IITs themselves. Each year, the duo scour Bihar's least privileged communities for 30 bright students to coach for the grueling examinations. Hence the name Super 30. "Intelligence is not birth-specific," says



HIGH FIVE

Of the 150 students who have studied at Super 30 in the past five years, 122 have qualified for IITs

Abhayamand.

If Super 30 has emerged as an architect for poor budding talents, there is a reason for it. Fascinated by numbers since childhood, Anand encountered extreme poverty in his childhood. During his graduation, he contributed several problems and write-ups on mathematics to national and international journals, magazines and newspapers. In 1994, he got an opportunity for higher education at both Cam-

bridge University and Sheffield University, but his poor financial background came in the way. He felt the pangs of poverty so much that he decided to do something for poor students. This led to the birth of Ramanujan School.

Of the 150 students who have studied at Super 30 in the past five years, 122 have qualified for the IITs. When one considers the fact that some 230,000 students from all over India compete for barely 5,000 seats in the country's seven IITs each year, one realises the significance of Super 30.

The successful students include children of brick kiln workers, rickshaw pullers, landless farmers and roadside vendors. They have all witnessed the change with sheer dedication. Some of their wards are set to be one top corporate officials and technocrats.

Reflecting on the award, Anand said it is an honour. The cash prize, he said, will go into funding a dream. "I will spend this money to set up an institution for teaching mathematics to economically backward students."

"Interestingly, Meghasay Award winner Sandeep Pandey also wants to set up an institution. So we are trying to fix an appointment with him failed. That's when he made up his mind to help the deserving write their own fortunes."

"I tried very hard to raise the money, but since I came from a poor family I failed. So I started a website to raise money to help poor students to crack the toughest engineering exam in the country," he revealed.

Anand is now the most-wanted tutor in Patna. Hundreds of bicycles can be seen stacked outside his institute near Patna bypass. The unassuming structure is

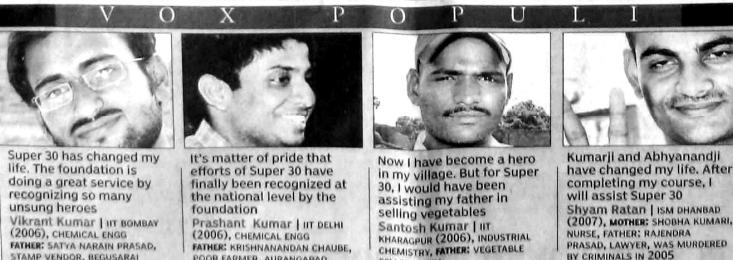
Anand's famed coaching cen-

tre. His voice is carried to students over a microphone clipped to his shirt as he stands in front of a blackboard and teaches as many as 500 students in a single班.

Bihar for a place in the school. Initially, 300 are selected for training and then 30 are shortlisted for the final grind. "The selection depends on talent, family background and education," said Anand.

The school charges a patry of Rs 6,000 annually from its students for the seven-month training, compared to other private coaching institutes who train students for IIT exams for nothing less than Rs 60,000 a year.

Handicapped 30 students who finally sit for the exam are given free coaching and food.



Breathing down on drunken driving

Kumod Verma | TN

East Central Railway division authorities seem to be on the right path by introducing steps to curb 'drunken driving'. According to a senior divisional engineer, a breath alcohol test equipment has been installed at Damapur station to find out whether a driver (daco-pilot) on duty is under the influence of alcohol. The Damapur division, which comes under

Chandigarh Division, or at other major stations in the division. Thus, the computerised breath inhalor test equipment has been installed at Damapur station, during the change-point of the division. For all originating and passing trains, crew members, drivers and assistant drivers are either

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