



Today's decision will give the citizens confidence that they can rely on the judicial system, instead of losing hope or terming it unfair

STATE BHARATIYA JANATA PARTY PRESIDENT DULIP GHOSH  
ON LALU PRASAD'S CONVICTION IN A FOODER SCAM CASE

State plans to install solar panels in 1,000 schools, colleges

KOLKATA, 23 DECEMBER

State power minister Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay said the state plans to install solar panels in another 1,000 schools and colleges. He was speaking during the inauguration of a 10KW roof top solar panel grid in Basanti Devi College.

Criticising the Centre's move of withdrawing the subsidy that is given to educational institutions for opting for solar energy, he said, "The Centre receives a cess on coal and we want 25-30 percent of that amount to install the solar panels in schools. We will continue to fight for it. The initiative to switch over to clean and green energy is to reduce dependency on coal for power."

He added that the state government is also working on the installation of a five megawatt floating solar project in Sagardighi while another 1,000 MW solar-hydro power project will be set up in Purulia.

The minister said the state government also plans to install a floating solar panel in Bikanragh Jheel in the city but as of now, a survey will be done to ensure whether there is enough space for setting up the plant.

Dr S P Gon Chaudhuri, chairman, International Solar Innovations Council, Helsing, said "A 10 KW rooftop solar plant can generate around 50 units every day which will help bring down a school's electricity bill and will also reduce emissions by a large percentage."

"The shadow of the solar panels will keep the floors below cool, which in turn will bring down the air-conditioning load by ten per cent."

Dr Indira Guha, principal, Basanti Devi College, said "Our aim is to achieve 15.5 KV out of which 10 KW has been installed and another five are in the pipeline."

'Centre-rejected tableau will lead R-day parade'

Mamata says people will not reject the attempt to depict harmony through culture

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, 23 DECEMBER

Chief minister Mamata Banerjee today said the state's tableau on 'Unity in Harmony' rejected by the Centre would lead the Republic Day parade organised by the state government on Red Road.

"You may have rejected our tableau but the people will not reject it. I believe that unity is harmony; culture is harmony. We tried to depict harmony through culture through our tableau but maybe they (the Centre) did not like it," said Miss Banerjee while inaugurating the Sangeet MeLa and Biswa Bangla Lok Sanskriti Utsav at Uttirnyo in Kolkata on Saturday.



Chief minister Mamata Banerjee, singers Sandhya Mukhopadhyay, Dwijen Mukhopadhyay, Abhijeet Bhattacharya during the inauguration of Sangeet MeLa, Biswa Bangla Lok Sanskriti Utsav, at Uttirnyo in Kolkata on Saturday.

Miss Banerjee said: "If culture is alive then only would humanity sustain, education sustain and freedom sustain. Culture is closely linked with harmony. One cannot exist without the other."

According to her, in music, it is only when the harmonium, tabla, karnal and other instruments come together

and rhythm, beat and lyrics are in place that harmony occurs.

Miss Banerjee urged artists to bring in revolution through their music. Music alone is capable of reaching the hearts of people the fastest, she said.

"Music has the power to unite the whole world. It can bring all people together,"

she said, adding that the melding of the old and new artists has brought harmony in Bengal.

Hitting out at the previous government for not doing anything for the upliftment of folk artists, Miss Banerjee said before her government came to power bauls were found singing with begging bowls in their hands. The picture has now changed with a total of 1.95 lakh folk artists being covered in the government's scheme wherein they receive a monthly allowance of Rs 1,000. Arrangements have also been made so that the artists can perform in government cultural programmes and publicity initiatives.

"Maybe I have not managed to do much but despite the Rs 40,000 crore debt we owe, we have succeeded in providing rice at Rs 2 per kg, bicycles, Kanyashree aid, free treatment at government hospitals and free primary education," she said.

Medical negligence: NRI seeks ₹100 crore compensation

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE  
KOLKATA, 23 DECEMBER

US-based NRI Dr Kunal Saha has filed a case in the Calcutta High Court (HC) against the West Bengal government demanding a compensation of Rs 100 crore.

Speaking to reporters in the city today Dr Saha said, "Our organisation People for Better Treatment (PBT) filed the case in the High Court on Friday seeking a compensation of Rs 100 crore for deliberate inaction by the state law department resulting in loss of my dignity, reputation, respect and also causing defamation, mental agony and distress."

"This lawsuit has emerged

Dr Saha said he would donate the money to judicial awareness on people and also for victims of 'medical negligence' if the HC directs the state government to pay him the amount

from a judgment of the Supreme Court in 2009 against Dr Sukumar Mukherjee and others and AMRI Hospital for the highest compensation (Rs 11.5 crore) in Indian medical history for negligence death of my wife Anuradha Saha," he said.

His wife Dr Anuradha Saha, a 36-year-old Ohio-based child psychologist, had undergone treatment under Dr Mukherjee when she complained of severe pain, fever and rashes during her visit to the city in 1998. She was admitted to AMRI Hospitals and Dr Mukherjee and several others had treated her.

She died there hardly within four to five days after her admission to the hospital.

"The Supreme Court had said that the judge in Calcutta High Court made 'irresponsible accusations' that I was responsible for my wife's death. In 2011, I move the High Court for criminal defamation against the judge but the HC directed that I should approach

the 'authority' that can make the necessary measures to meet the ends of justice," according to him.

"Over the past several years, the state department is sitting idle to take necessary action, ignoring the SC and HC. Thus a fresh case has been filed against the state government demanding the amount for my long-lasting pain, suffering and defamation," the NRI doctor said.

Dr Saha pledged to donate the huge amount to create awareness on judicial propriety among people and also for hapless victims of 'medical negligence' if the High Court directs the state government to pay him the amount.

Christmas fever on; city set to welcome Santa



School students participate in a Christmas Pageant in Park Street, Kolkata on Saturday.

PRACHETA PANJA  
KOLKATA, 23 DECEMBER

Christmas fever has gripped the city and all eyes today were riveted on the New Market-Park Street area where hundreds of men, women and children thronged, frenetically buying cakes, Christmas trees and other Christmas goodies.

Christmas trees and various decorative items are being sold in every nook and corner of the city, attracting huge crowds.

Renowned bakery shops at New Market had a trying time with connoisseurs queuing up before them, waiting for about two hours on an average for their turn to come.

They are finding it difficult to meet the demand which has far exceeded last year's. Many customers vented their frustration and disappointment at not getting their top choice - the fruit cake.

This year the rush for confectioneries started from 10 December. Demonetization had taken a toll on the demand last year," said the managing director of a well known confectionery shop at Park Street which has completed 90 years of existence this year.

"We are expecting to sell double of what we did last year," he added.

"This year a mouth-watering addition to the usual varieties - fruitcake and plum cake - is 'hollen gur er cake', said another leading cake manufacturer at Hogg Market.

Park Street is illuminated and is ready to welcome Christmas. The well-known restaurants and bakeries have set up temporary stalls along the road till 30 December.

"The people of Kolkata are food-lovers. We are hoping to do brisk business this time around," said the operator of a temporary stall with a broad grin.

Right after dusk, people started thronging the road wearing colourful bands and caps, taking pictures, enjoying the winter and Christmas festivities.

The celebration began soon after the inauguration of the festival at Allen Park, Park Street, by chief minister Mamata Banerjee on 22 December.

Around 500 children from various schools across the city in fancy dress participated in a rally around the city, starting from Mayo Road to Park Street, followed by a nativity show.

Two businessmen shot at in Canning, hospitalised

Local residents rushed the critically injured duo to Canning subdivisional hospital and also informed the police

SOUTH 24 PARGANAS,  
23 DECEMBER

Two businessmen were shot at last night at Jibantala of Canning in South 24-Parganas district by some unknown miscreants. They were taken to hospital in critical condition. The assailants could not be arrested till this evening.

The two businessmen, Sushanta Adhikari and Shyamal Naskar, were returning home on Friday night when some unknown miscreants shot at them at Fakirakya area within Jibantala police limits.

Local residents rushed the critically injured duo to Canning subdivisional hospital and also informed the police.

According to a police officer, one of the businessmen received bullet injuries in the chest, the other was hurt in the leg. The assailants were three in number.

"A case has been initiated," he added.

Meanwhile, the two injured businessmen had to be shifted to Kolkata National Medical College and Hospital from Canning hospital after their condition deteriorated.



BENOY CHANDRA GUHA  
IN FOND  
REMEMBRANCE

Department of Consumer Affairs  
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution  
Government of India

**GREETINGS ON NATIONAL CONSUMER DAY**  
24 December 2017

Union Government has approved the introduction of new Consumer Protection Bill 2017 in Parliament to further protect the interests of consumers by :

- Strengthening of the existing Act.
- Faster redressal of consumer grievances.
- Empowering Consumers.
- Modernizing legislation to keep pace with changes in market.

THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE  
THE RIGHT TO BE INFORMED  
THE RIGHT TO SEEK REDRESSAL  
THE RIGHT TO SAFETY  
THE RIGHT TO CONSUMER EDUCATION  
THE RIGHT TO BE HEARD

DEAR CONSUMER: ASSERT YOUR RIGHTS

14404  
Consumer Mobile App for Consumers

NATIONAL CONSUMER HELPLINE  
1800-11-4000  
or 14404  
(Toll Free)

CONSUMER FORA

For any guidance, contact National Consumer Helpline

Department's Website: www.consumeraffairs.nic.in  
Online Complaints: www.consumerhelpline.gov.in  
@consaff  
@jaggrahakjago

NATIONAL TAX MARKET  
GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Attention: Trade and Transporters

E-WAY BILL TO BECOME MANDATORY for inter-State movement of goods from 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2018  
System to be ready by 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2018

The nationwide e-way Bill system will be ready to be rolled out on a trial basis latest by 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2018. Trade and transporters can start using this system on a voluntary basis from 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2018 before it becomes compulsory.

The rules for implementation of nationwide e-way Bill system for inter-State movement of goods on a compulsory basis will be notified with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2018. This will bring uniformity across the States for seamless inter-State movement of goods.

While the system for both inter-State and intra-State e-way Bill generation will be ready by 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2018, the States may choose their own timings for implementation of e-way Bill for intra-State movement of goods on any date before 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2018.

There are certain States which are already having system of e-way Bill for intra-State as well as inter-State movement. Some of these States can adopt national e-way Bill system early for intra-State movement also.

In any case uniform system of e-way Bill for inter-State as well as intra-State movement will be implemented across the country by 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2018.

GST - A Good & Simple Tax

Central Board of Excise and Customs & Commercial Taxes Departments of States/Union Territories  
www.cbec.gov.in, www.cbec-gst.gov.in