



JANET YEGNESWARAN  
FOUNDER, TREES FOR FREE

Why waste paper by printing a visiting card? Why not use the seed of a tree, which, even if thrown away, will bloom into a green beauty. That's how Janet Yegneswaran, founder of Trees for Free, thinks. She's ever ready to take a bunch of saplings in the boot of her car and drive to different parts of the city to plant them. 'Go green' and 'lower your carbon footprint' are not just fashionable terms for this green crusader. She truly means it.

## It's your day, come together and have fun

DNA Bureau, BANGALORE

Today is March 8, International Women's Day. So, women, leave behind all chores and step out to celebrate the occasion. The city is hosting many events.

If you haven't watched a flick for a long time due to hectic schedules, enjoy the day at the theatre. BIG Cinemas is screening a slew of flicks just for you. Take a pick from *Road Movie*, *Teen Patti*, *Karthik Calling Karthik*, *Atithi Tum Kab Jaoge*, *Thanks Maa*, *My Name Is Khan*, and *Legion*. Just ensure you reach 45 minutes before the show at BIG Cinemas, Gopalan Arch Mall, and RR Nagar, to avail your free ticket. For details, call 080 39894040.

There is a panel discussion organised by CII Karnataka. The participants include Geetanjali Kirloskar, Hema Ravichandrar, Susan Scott, Arundhati Nag, and Arundhati Bhattacharya. The theme is '2020 - Our vision of women'.

Mahila Horata Okkoota, a women's group, is holding public meetings at street corners between 10am to 1pm at Malleshwaram Circle, Shivaji Nagar, Peenya Industrial area and Town Hall Circle.

Women working in banks can look forward to a convention organised by 6th All India Women Bank Employees. The theme is 'Women's rights are human rights'.

Bangalore University's UG centre for women's studies will celebrate Women's Day on March 8 at 10.15am. Dr Jayamala, president of Karnataka Film Chamber of Commerce, will be the guest of honour. Surana College's centre for postgraduate studies will hold a lecture by Dr Manika Ghosh, special officer, department of collegiate studies, Government of Karnataka, on 'Women at the work place' at 10.30am.

Sagar Hospital is organising a 'Well women health' camp from March 8 to March 13 on the occasion. Manipal Cure and Care has introduced two new packages for women on the occasion. This package is priced at Rs999. The offer is valid till March 14. For appointments, contact 080 39893979 or SMS 57333.



TICKETS PLEASE: Although there are over 100 women conductors in BMTC, there are no women drivers

IN INDIA, MOTHERS ARE FORCED TO DO JOBS NOT MATCHING THEIR QUALIFICATIONS

# Women treated unfairly in workplace, says study

Jayalakshmi Venugopal, BANGALORE

What women want and often don't get at the workplace forms the backdrop of an international study spanning seven countries including India.

Factors ranging from pay disparity to gender discrimination at work and unequal sharing of household tasks are examined in the report titled, 'Decisions to Work,' which will be published on March 8, International Women's Day, by the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) in Brussels.

The main objective of the report is to examine the factors that influence women's decisions for work and to what extent these 'decisions' are limited by the opportunities available to them compared with men. It contains findings from surveys conducted in Argentina, Brazil, India, Mexico, the Netherlands, South Africa and the United Kingdom.

## The report is call to workers, employers, policy-makers, unions and governments

From India, 5,181 people participated in the survey, 4,351 men and 830 women. In terms of performing the balancing act of managing work and home, 58.7% Indian women with children found it difficult compared with 52.8% men. They admitted that they were overqualified for the positions they were currently holding at work. Compared to 14.5% of men, nearly 20% of women with children felt they were short-changed with regard to job level related to their educational qualifications.

The study found that women with children (52.4%) found it more difficult to get good career opportunities compared with men with children (30.6%). An interesting switch took place when the question of sharing household duties arose. It was found that Indian women (52.3%) were less likely to share household chores than men (49.8%). However, when children were brought into the equation, men



NEW DRIVE: Future campaigns will focus on domestic workers, a living wage, and gender pay gap, culminating in 2014 with an International Trade Union Women's March

(47.7%) were less inclined to do household chores than women (15.4%).

India largely fared well in the study in terms of its national regulations, which comply with the International Labour Organisation's standards to deal with issues like workplace discrimination, sexual harassment and equal pay for work. "In most developed cities and large companies, the compliance to providing women with equal opportunities and pay is good. The challenge lies in the unorganised sector and smaller firms. We have seen through experience that education does not mean more awareness among employees. Equal pay for equal opportunities is still to be realised," said Karthik Shekhar, general secretary, UNITESS Professionals India (IT&ITES union).

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## Some of the findings

Only in India, Argentina, Brazil and Chile, men with children are beating men without children in getting good career opportunities.

Women earn less than men.

More women claim that they are overqualified for the job they do than men.

The pay gap gets wider by 32% between men and women, if women have children.

More men with children rely on their spouses to take care of the larger share of household and child care duties.

# They show the way for others

CITY WOMEN WIELD CRUCIAL ROLES IN VARIOUS FIELDS. THIS GOES WELL WITH THE UN THEME FOR WOMEN'S DAY 2010: EQUAL RIGHTS, OPPORTUNITIES AND PROGRESS FOR ALL



Beena Jayachandran  
APRON CONTROLLER, BIA

"No job is a man's or woman's job. It is your attitude and confidence that makes the difference. Women have proven themselves as excellent workers in almost all the fields. They are as good as their male counterparts," says Beena who works close to big jets. She has her own 'follow me' vehicle, which she drives on the airside with confidence and flair. Her role is to ensure that all safety rules and regulations are followed by all the operators on the airside. Besides this, she also coordinates between the Airport Operations Control Centre (AOCC) and Air Traffic Control (ATC).

She started her career 15 years ago in the aviation industry with customer services. She then worked in Airport Operations Control Center (AOCC) before moving to the present job three years ago. "Nobody ever treated me badly because I'm a woman," she says.

She has morning, afternoon and night shifts. Like all working women, she has to balance her family life and work. At home, she helps her children, six-year-old Tara and 12-year-old Neil, get ready for school and tries to spend time with them whenever her shift allows.

## Ancy Lawrence

OPERATIONS EXECUTIVE, AOCC, BIA

Her role entails allocation of bays for aircraft, flight data management, slot approval, coordination of flight arrivals and departures, all of which require a lot of concentration.

"Yes, I'm the only woman at the centre. But the way BIA is going, AOCC will no longer remain male-dominated. Women can perform these duties equally well," says Ancy with a smile. "That I've survived here



reflects the tremendous support I have received from my male colleagues. Nobody has tried to put me down for being a woman. In just a year's time, I was promoted to the post of operations executive from operations assistant. The company considers performance and not gender," she says.

"My company has created good working environment for women. For night shift, they arrange transport with security. Now, that I'm pregnant, my manager has allowed me to pick a steady shift, which my body needs to get used to so that irregular timings do not affect my health," she says.

"I'm a happy person. One has to be alert on this job. So remaining calm is equally important while passing information and taking quick decisions," she says. Ancy gives credit to her husband and in-laws for giving her all support.

—MONICA JHA



PA Venkatalakshmi  
AUTO DRIVER AND LAW STUDENT

Tenth semester law student PA Venkatalakshmi, 35, is fast at reading as well as driving her autorickshaw. She is proud of both roles.

"I became an autorickshaw driver by choice as I did not want to work under anybody and get exploited," she says.

She was offered a job in a private IT firm. They demanded Rs1 lakh as bond amount, which she could not pay.

"People look down upon a driver's profession. Many a time, I have been refused a rented home because of my profession. But I don't care. I chose this profession to serve the society," she says proudly.

Recollecting her past, this former NCC cadet says she once had a narrow escape from kidnappers who wanted to sell her to a Mumbai gang. When her daughter fell ill, she had to sell her land and wind up her canteen business.

—BOSKY KHANNA

## THE BROWSER

### 1 WASSUP TODAY

FEDERATION OF KARNATAKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY: Talk on 'Women travelling together towards prosperity', by Chaya Srivatsa, founder of The Guild of Women Achievers (GOWA), a global network of women, Cabinet Hall of FKCCI, KG Road, 5pm

### 2 WATER WOES

Disputes under the jurisdiction of BTM Layout, Arakere, Kodichikkanahalli, Hosur Road and Veerasandra will be settled at the office of the assistant executive engineer of South-3 subdivision at BTM Layout from 9.30am to 11am.

### 3 GENERAL

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ASTROPHYSICS: Lecture by Nobel laureate Eric Cornell, Auditorium, Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Koramangala, 5.30pm

JAIN UNIVERSITY: Sir CV Raman memorial lecture by VK Atre, former head of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on MEMS (Micro-Electro-Mechanical systems), Jain Global Campus, Jakkasandra Post, 10.30am

### 4 WOMEN'S DAY

HEALTHCARE GLOBAL: Inauguration of HCG-Centre for Women's Health, a centre for women by women, actor Priyanaka Uppendra to participate, HCB Cyber Knife, Sampangi Rama Nagar, noon

BWSSB: International Women's Day inauguration by Shobha Karandlaje, MLA, Board chairman PB Ramamurthy to preside, Cauvery Bhavan, 4pm

### 5 ART AND CULTURE

THE INDO-ITALIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY BANGALORE: 8th Edition of Festa Italiana, Anitha Nair, writer and Vijay R Kirloskar, industrialist, to participate, Caperry, Dickenson Road, 8pm



THE SURGE: Cyclists taking part in Go Green ride in the city to create awareness on green city, organised by WANI in Bangalore on Sunday

ACTION AID: Hunger-Free Children, a photo exhibition on slum children, runaway children on railway platforms and child labourers, British Council, Kasturba Road Cross, 11am

### 6 POSITIVE THINKING

PARAMARATHA VICHARA SANGHA TRUST: Vidwan KG Subraya Sharma delivers a lecture on Adhyasa Bashyam, Adhyatma Mandira, National High School Road, VV Puram, 7.45am

VEDANTA SATSANGA KENDRA: Lecture on Chandogyopanishat, Vedanta Nilaya, Sakamma Gardens, Basavanagudi, 9am

KARNATAKA SHILPAKALA ACADEMY: A camp for poets and sculptors, Crafts Council of India vice-president MV Narayana Rao to inaugurate, Karnataka Kalagrama, Bangalore University Premises, Mallatahalli, 11am

### 7 PASSING THROUGH

THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS: Presentation on 'Privatization of Water: Is water an economic commodity or social good?' by C Rajasekara Murthy, Emeritus scientist-environment, Canada, The Institution of Engineers premises, BR Ambedkar Veedhi, 5.30pm

If you want your events to be listed, please send in the details to browser@dnaindia.net. You can also fax them to 42868801 or call 42868888

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## GOVERNMENT OF GOA DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM

Patto, Panaji, Goa - 403 001, India.  
Ph.: 0832 2438750/51/52 Fax: 0832 2438756  
E-mail: goatourism@dataone.in Website: www.goatourism.gov.in

### SHORT TENDER NOTICE

The Government of Goa invites tenders for removing the vessel, "M. V. River Princess" grounded in shallow waters at Sinquerim - Candolim Beach at a distance of about 200 to 300 meters from the shoreline in its entirety by cutting and removal of the pieces including the section of the vessel that is buried below the sand in the sea bed. All the pieces shall be removed seawards only and disposed of by the party.

Interested parties may submit their technical and financial bids in separate envelopes before 3.00 p.m. on 29/03/2010 addressed to the Director, Department of Tourism and should deposit them in the bid box placed in the office of the Director, Department of Tourism, Patto, Panaji, Goa-403 001, India and the Competent Authority, Panaji - Goa (India).

In the technical bid, the parties shall submit the following:-

- Their experience for carrying out the works alongwith the documentary proof in this regard.
- The equipments they intend to mobilize for the job.
- The methodology proposed to be used without causing any environmental damage.
- The time frame for the start and completion of the work.
- Financial capability to carry out the work with documentary proof.

While giving the financial bid, the bidder shall take into account the value of the scrap of the vessel.

For further details/clarification, please contact the Director of Tourism on Tel. Nos: 0832 2438750/ 51/52/53, Fax: 0832 2438756, E-mail: goatourism@dataone.in

Sd/-  
Director of Tourism  
Government of Goa

DI/1455/10

THEY CAN SUCCESSFULLY MANAGE CAREER AND HOME. PARVATHAMMA RAJKUMAR IS AN IDEAL EXAMPLE OF THAT



PUNEET RAJKUMAR  
ACTOR

I'm honoured to have a mother like her. She was the one who guided me when I wanted to set up my business and it was she who helped me pave the way into the industry

# EVERY WOMAN COULD BECOME AN ACHIEVER

I have the most respect for my mother. She is the person who has handled my father's career and brought him to the greatest peak of his acting.

There was no looking back for our family and even the Kannada film industry after she started our home production Vajreshwari Combines in 1974. She has not just wielded the responsibilities of being a wife and mother but she also ensured that our production house remained the *numero uno* in the state for nearly four decades now.

With just four actors as heroes, with my father and us brothers, she has produced 72 films, something that no one else can boast of in any film industry.

To handle the career of someone as great as Rajkumar, whom people had the most expectations from, and to make superstars out of all of us brothers as well was no easy feat. It

If my mother can manage a household and still achieve so much, I'm sure every woman can draw inspiration from that and write their own success stories

is no wonder that today she commands a position in the Kannada film industry which is truly admirable and even envied by many. Most of the decisions, especially when it comes to the welfare of the Kannada film industry in general, are taken after considering her suggestions. And we also command equal goodwill from everyone in the industry because of her hard work and determination.

I'm honoured to have a mother like her. She was the one who guided me when I wanted to set up my business and it was she who helped me pave the way into the industry. She

has pepped me up on the days when I didn't really see the sunshine and she's been part of my biggest successes too. If it weren't for her planning, I wouldn't have achieved the superstardom in the industry with my very first two releases. This shows how good an entrepreneur she is.

In Sanskrit there's the shloka that goes: *Mathru devo bhava, pithru devo bhava, acharya devo bhava, athithi devo bhava*. This puts a mother in front of everyone else and that shows how important her position is in anyone's life. Looking at her work, I have always believed that women everywhere should be encouraged to work.

If my mother can manage a household and still achieve so much, I'm sure every woman can draw inspiration from that and write their own success stories.

On that note, I want to wish my mother, wife, sister and all the women reading this paper a very happy International Women's Day.