

Tuition fee to books, what it costs to send child to CBSE/ICSE school

What does it take to send a child to an upmarket CBSE/ICSE school in the city? Not just tuition fee, but charges under various heads like books, uniforms, shoes and transport, apart from extra-curricular and admission fee in some schools. Collating information from random parents of students from various CBSE/ICSE schools with the help of Voice of Parents, a group fighting exorbitant school fees, TOI provides a rough estimate of the various components of the annual fee these institutions charge. These figures could vary from class to class and school to school



The government is turning a blind eye to central government rules/RTE Act and the state's capitation fee Act. The high court struck down KEA rules, and private school managements have realised there is no one to regulate them. Now, parents have to cough up money for every demand from the school, without any justification. And most of these demands are against the rules/Acts. Providing education to children has become a burden for most parents. Courts are looking at technicalities rather than justice, the government is sleeping and next-generation kids are struggling for their fundamental rights

Sijo Sebastian | VOICE OF PARENTS

The Supreme Court has said education is a charitable domain and not meant for profit. The profits should be ploughed back into the institution for its development. But managements are interpreting the verdicts in their favour. CBSE and CISCE have maintained that schools cannot sell uniforms/books on campus. There are laws, but no monitoring mechanism. Whatever little was there struck down by the HC in January 2023. Education has become a profiteering industry. Unless we bring in a fee regulatory legislation, there is no solution

This is a phenomenon seen only with high-fee collecting schools. They are very few — about 800 — which account for 2-3% of all schools in the state. Parents have to understand quality education doesn't mean high tuition fee, book fee or branded shoes. There are several other schools that offer the same or even better education. It is also not fair to think only CBSE or ICSE schools are good. Commercialisation in these elite schools is unacceptable. But it is parents' choice and they need to be advised first

Shahli Kumar D | GENERAL SECRETARY, ASSOCIATION OF MANagements OF PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOLS OF KARNATAKA

Tuition fee ₹1 lakh- ₹2 lakh

Several schools charge anywhere between Rs 1 lakh and Rs 2 lakh. Some also charge admission fee, ranging from Rs 25,000-Rs 1 lakh

Shoes ₹2k

Many schools have branded shoes as part of their uniform, that would cost around Rs 2,000 a pair. Some have shoes of low-cost brands priced at Rs 500-Rs 1,000

Uniforms ₹3k-7k for 2-3 pairs

Uniforms are usually two types — normal uniform and sports/house uniform. A household usually prefers 2-3 pairs, which would cost around Rs 3,000-7,000

Textbooks ₹4k-₹12k

Some schools claim they follow their own curriculum and get books printed from in-house printers. This leaves parents with no option but to buy from school at the price quoted

Extra charges

Some schools charge extra for other educational resources, extra-curricular activities, languages, tours, annual day, sports day, etc.

School bus ₹30k-₹60k

Charges vary with schools, distance and type of school buses. According to bus owners' association, a school charges Rs 28,000-Rs 30,000 if student lives less than 2km away from campus. If school is on the outskirts, charges are calculated based on distances categorised in slabs. For first 5km, charge would be around Rs 32,000-Rs 35,000. Parents pay anywhere between 30,000-Rs 60,000 on school transport

Text by Sruthy Susan Ullas

Attendance short? You can still write II PU supplementary

Bengaluru: Students who couldn't write II PU exams in March-April due to attendance shortage will be allowed to appear for supplementary exams scheduled for May/June.

They must register as private candidates, said a circular from Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board. As many as 12,385 students were denied hall tickets as they failed to maintain the minimum 75% attendance. Of these, 7,985 were from arts stream and 4,400 from commerce.

"There was no provision all these years for those with attendance shortage to write supplementary exam. From this year even they will be allowed to write, but as private candidates. This will help them save a year," said an official.

However, students have to register before May 20 by paying Rs 1,960 (general merit) and Rs 1,560 (SC/ST). Colleges have to upload the information of these students registered with them on the PU exam portal by 7pm on May 20. TNN

Teachers learn to get ready for academic yr

Sruthy Susan Ullas
@timesgroup.com

Bengaluru: Schools are set to reopen soon. But before students walk in for another academic year, campuses are busy training teachers for the gruelling session ahead. In several city schools, the annual teacher training is under way.

Whitefield Global School started the induction and annual training on Monday and the teachers were welcomed with flowers and chocolates. "Just before schools close, we conduct a survey among teachers on what their requirements are. Based on that and along with our annual theme, we conduct age-appropriate training for each segment. It ranges from differentiated learning and art of questioning to a teacher being a transformational leader and positivity. The training concludes with an assessment," said Sharada Chandrashekar, principal.

The topics are selected based on the everyday needs of teachers. One such topic



CLASSROOM BONDS: Topics for teacher training include how to ensure kids' mental well-being and build a rapport with them

selected at Deens Academy is how to communicate with parents. Shanthi Menon, principal, explained how a teacher, who has good articulation skills to execute the training and also has been able to establish good communication with parents over a few years, was selected to conduct the session. "We then think through situations we came across campus and build them into case studies. The challenge is to

communicate with parents using the appropriate verbal/non-verbal skills so that it's easier to work with the kids and them," she said.

Expert speakers

Schools also get expert speakers for each session. "We have in-house as well as experts coming from outside. For instance, we have senior retired experts from the corporate world who will train teachers on transactional

This is the peak season for professional development of Bengaluru schools. School managements are requesting for a variety of training modules — from classroom and time management to active learning strategies, assessment modes and most importantly, teacher-student well-being. However, the problem is that after a hurried spate of training, by and large teachers are left to their own devices to implement these contemporary approaches. Most schools sadly don't put systems and processes in place to enable meaningful embedding of good practices. So, while some teachers may utilise the professional training, most quickly return to their default setting

Maya Menon | FOUNDER-DIRECTOR, TEACHER FOUNDATION

analysis, which basically revolves around solving disputes between children and their teachers," said Anuradha Krishnan, principal of Primus International. The school also has sessions on incorporating 21st century skills into everyday classes, multiple intelligence and inductive teaching.

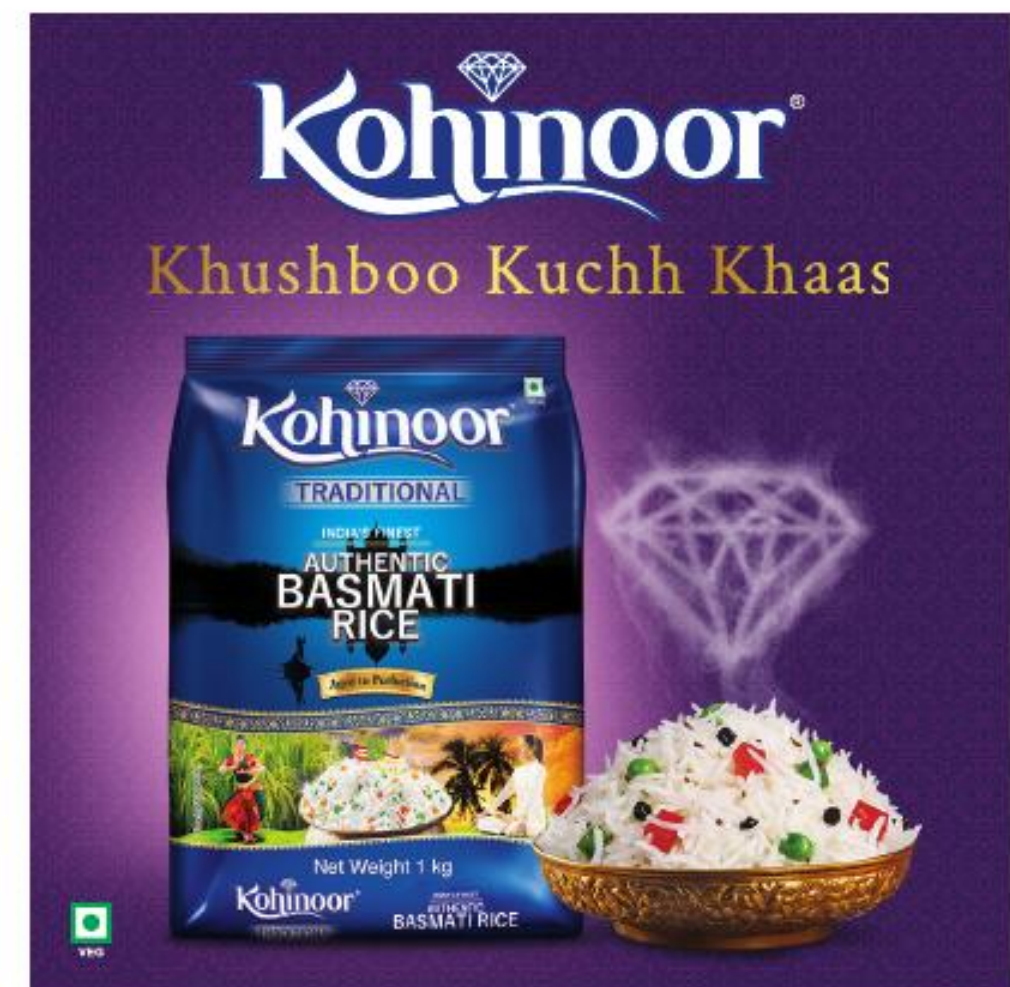
Schools select a theme for training. Delhi Public School East will have its training from May 22. "The train-

ing will be on mental well-being of students, handling adolescence, healthy eating habits and vocational courses. There is a session on grooming for teachers and on rapport building with children..." said Manila Carvelho, principal.

'Making kids feel at home'

"The topics revolve around everything about understanding children. From introducing new children to their friends and making them feel at home to dealing with parents and school reluctance, teachers are briefed about them all. Initially, the reluctance to come to school was only seen among the lower grades. Now, after Covid, we see it among higher grade students too. Many parents work from home, so children too want to stay back. Home provides more comfort, including access to social media," said Gayatri Devi, principal, Little Flower High School.

"Teachers are trained to be approachable, give a patient hearing, on body language and dressing sense..." she added.



Pals waded into lake water, teen drowns

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: A 17-year-old student who waded into Kumbalghatta lake near Kumbalghatta, Bengaluru Rural district, drowned on Tuesday evening. The deceased is N Jitendra, an ITI student and resident of Nandini Layout.

According to police, Jitendra, a student of Government Polytechnic College in Goraguntepalya, went to the lake with some friends and drowned after wading into the water. The teenager from Andhra Pradesh is survived by parents and younger brother.

His father T Nagabhusan told police Jitendra left home at 8.30am Tuesday, telling his parents he was going to college. "When he failed to return home, I called him on his mobile and got no response. I visited the college at 6pm and the gates were locked.

Around 7.30pm, someone called me saying Jitendra had drowned in the lake. I rushed to the spot and found he and friends Swaraj, Venu and So-mashekhar had waded into the water. Jitendra didn't know how to swim, so I don't suspect any foul play," Nagabhusan said in the complaint.

Boy slips to death in feeder channel

A four-year-old boy, playing near a feeder channel in Hebbagodi, Bengaluru Rural district, drowned on Sunday and his body was recovered on Monday evening. The victim is K Shakti Swaroop, son of a daily-wage worker.

Swaroop had gone to his grandmother's house in Gattahalli, which is close to the feeder channel. Around 10 children, including Swaroop, were playing there when he slipped and fell, police said.

'Extend 5% property tax rebate to May'

Bengaluru: Citing the model code of conduct and inconvenience caused to those paying property tax on time, Congress functionaries have urged BBMP to extend the 5% tax rebate by another month.

Former Congress corporators M Shivaraju and Abdul Wajid met the BBMP chief commissioner on Wednesday and said the rebate should be extended by one month to facilitate payment of property taxes.

BBMP generally provides a 5% rebate to those paying property taxes for 2023-24 in April. However, due to assembly elections this year, several BBMP revenue wing officials were busy with poll-related work in April and May, inconveniencing many taxpayers. The functionaries sought extension of rebate to property taxpayers for May as well. TNN

Kin donate organs after foreign tourist dies of haemorrhage

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Bengaluru: A foreign national in her 40s, who was in the city as a tourist along with her family, died of a brain haemorrhage on Monday, but saved the lives of six others through organ donation.

The exact age and nationality of the donor was not revealed in keeping with privacy issues. Sparsh Hospital, where the foreigner's organs were harvested and donated on Tuesday, revealed the patient's liver and left kidney were successfully transplanted to other patients at the hospital in RR Nagar, while the other kidney was sent to INU Hospital. Her heart valves were sent to Narayana Hrudayalaya, corneas to Narayana Nethralaya and skin



to Victoria Skin Bank. Joseph Pasangha, Group COO, Sparsh Hospital said: "It is remarkable to see how selfless gestures like these transcend boundaries of nationality, caste and creed. We salute the family for their magnanimity, especially at a time of great grief. This should only encourage all of us to do more and better in our endeavours to support organ donation."

In keeping with protocol, officials from SOT-TO (State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization), the government body that oversees cadaver organ donation in Karnataka, took written consent from the woman's family. The beneficiaries were selected according to a waiting list of organ recipients.

Take bus to BBP, get free entry to butterfly park on Mondays

Bengaluru: One can visit the butterfly park at Bannerghatta Biological Park for free on Mondays till June 5. But you need to go there by a government bus. Otherwise, the entry charge is between Rs 30 and Rs 50, as per the park's website. Those willing to avail free entry will have to produce proof of travel like tickets or passes.

This initiative is part of Lifestyle for Environment campaign initiated by ministry of environment and forests. It started on May 8, and 167 visitors availed it. An awareness session was held on illegal wildlife trade and threat to wildlife around the theme 'Adopt healthy lifestyle'. Officials said 700 visitors were selected to adopt environment-friendly habits. TNN

Expert: Urban heat island effect to blame

Continued from page 1

The thought of walking even 500 metres feels difficult due to the weather," he said, adding even when temperatures touched the 35-degree mark some years ago, they never felt the heat as they do now.

Jagdish Krishnaswamy, dean of environment and sustainability at Indian Institute of Human Settlements, said cities suffer from urban heat island effect due to massive concretisation. "This acts as a double blow along with effects of global warming," he said. The expert said 'wet-bulb temperature' of 35 degrees C is almost intolerable for humans, and high discomfort can be

felt at wet-bulb temperatures above 32 degrees C.

Why no rain now?

Datasets from the past decade show when Bengaluru crossed 34 degrees C, it would rain. "In the past 5-6 years, even if the temperature goes up to 35-36 degrees C, we are not likely to experience that kind of rain. This is due to distribution of rainfall being regulated by atmospheric pressure that depends on water transpired by plant system. When vegetation has declined, transpiration is less and the vapour-pressure gradient is not created to bring rain. That's why we don't get rain," said Thimmegowda, head of agricultural meteorology, Gandhi Krishi Vigyan Kendra.

7x7ft museum offers peek into India's space journey

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: One of Isro's registered merchandise sellers, already offering over 70 products to the organisation, on Wednesday unveiled its wall museum titled India in Space, designed to fit in cupboards of schools to inspire students.

From Isro's initial struggles and frugal engineering to big-ticket missions like Mars Orbiter Mission, Chandrayaan and the upcoming human spaceflight mission, the vertical museum showcases the space agency over the decades. It gives viewers a glimpse into India's successful space endeavours like Mangalyaan and Gaganyaan and displays a miniature of a rocket being transported on a bicycle.



CURIOS MINDS: Visitors check out Isro merchandise at BIC. (Right) The museum can be installed in a few hours

'Learning tool for students'

"This is a unique experiential STEM learning tool that will inspire and educate students in schools and colleges to be rocket scientists and innovators... The wall museum will showcase 25+ authentic mo-

dels of technological artefacts of Isro missions with a digital user interface and experience with additional information about each artefact," as per to Indic Inspirations, creator of the museum. Sunil Jalihal, CEO, Indic



Inspirations, said the museum displays India's space feats in a 7x7ft wooden cabinet and can be installed in a few hours. It will cost a fraction of what it would take to curate a traditional museum.

Sudheer Kumar, director,

Isro Capacity Building Programme Office, said: "When I first dreamed of this about three-four years ago, I wasn't sure how it may turn out. But what we see here today is a result of a committed team having worked towards an important goal. I am sure this would inspire students across schools. Given how important outreach is, even for Isro, I think this is very inspiring."

Jalihal said the museum was already installed in multiple places and Indic urged organisations/institutions in India's science capital to make use of it. "We've curated this very carefully and have used expert designers, engineers and artisans. For instance, we've got artisans from Channarayana to make Isro rocket models for kids," he said.

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RENAMING OF RAJPATH TO KARTAVYA PATH IS 'PURE POLITICS', SAYS SHASHI THAROOR

SC stays NCDRC order on 2cr damages for 'wrong' haircut

'Compensation Quantification Cannot Be On Mere Asking'

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Wednesday stayed a National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) directing at a five-star hotel in Delhi to pay a compensation of Rs 2 crore to a woman for a faulty haircut and bad hair treatment. A bench of Justices Aniruddha Bose and Sudhanshu Dhulia issued notice to model Aashna Roy on an appeal filed by ITC challenging the NCDRC award.

The top court, in its order, said: "Admittedly, the respondent has received Rs 25 lakh along with interest. In such circumstances, there shall be an interim order staying the operation of the judgment impugned." The bench noted that compensation quantification cannot be on mere asking, rather it has to be on material evidence. ITC had moved the apex court against the NCDRC order, which reaf-



ITC had moved the SC against the NCDRC order, which reaffirmed its 2021 order, directing it to pay Rs 2 crore as compensation

firmed its September 2021 order, directing it to pay Rs 2 crore as compensation. In April this year, the NCDRC reaffirmed its earlier order after relying on e-mails and applications of proposed modelling and acting contracts presented by Roy.

In February this year, the Supreme Court had set aside the NCDRC order awarding Rs 2 crore compensation to the woman for a bad haircut and hair treatment, saying

"amount of Rs 2 crore would be extremely excessive and disproportionate", and "quantification of compensation has to be based upon material evidence and not on the mere asking".

Roy had visited the saloon of the Hotel ITC Maurya, New Delhi in April 2018 for hair styling so that she would have a clean and groomed appearance before the interview panel where she was to appear. She gave specific instructions

to the hairdresser regarding the haircut. Roy said as a result of the faulty haircut, she could not continue to lead her normal busy life as she no longer looked pretty; she had to face great humiliation and embarrassment; her career in the world of modelling was completely shattered and she went into a state of depression.

Later, the hotel offered her hair treatment free of cost. In May 2018, Roy went to the salon for this purpose. During the treatment, she claimed her hair and scalp were completely damaged due to ammonia and consequently, there was a lot of irritation. She filed a complaint before alleging deficiency in service, seeking written apology from the management as also compensation of Rs 3 crore for harassment, humiliation, mental trauma, loss of career, loss of income, and loss of future prospects. IANS

HC restrains TN govt from heli-tourism in Nilgiris

Chennai: The Madras HC on Wednesday restrained the TN government from conducting helicopter tourism in Nilgiris during the ongoing summer festival.

"The fragile eco-system and vulnerability of this bio-diverse region cannot be the victim of crass commercialism, that too in such an unplanned and careless fashion," said a bench of Justices Anita Sumanth and M. Nirmal Kumar, objecting to the steps taken by the TNTDC and Nilgiris district to grant permission to a private firm to conduct heli-tourism from the Theetukal helipad situated at a distance of 3 km from Uthagamandalam.

The division bench said that there was abject sidelining of the forest department and that the wildlife wardens of the tiger reserves and national parks in the Nilgiris biosphere were not informed. It passed the order after taking into account the apprehensions raised by counsel R. Srinivas considering the harm caused by the helicopter tourism. IANS



Bonding over a sip

We came across this couple sipping and quenching thirst on a summer morning in **Tadoba Andhari Tiger Reserve**. Thanks to the alertness of our guide, we got to see them and an eye-to-eye contact was simply mesmerising. **AVISHEK JENA**

Royal soak

In a serene pond, a tiger takes a refreshing bath, enjoying the cool water on his coat. His gaze is fixed on three peacocks and he seems to be enjoying their company rather than hunting them. The tiger's expression is calm, and he revels in his royal soak, enjoying every moment of it. **MANGAL KUMAR SHARMA**



Battle of the tigers

Two tigers in a fierce fight. One stands on his hind legs, striking out with powerful paws. The other is hidden from view, but the sound of the blows landing is loud and fierce. It's a battle of strength and will, with each tiger determined to come out on top. **ANEESH SHARMA**

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SC judge recuses from hearing Bihar plea against HC

New Delhi: Supreme Court judge Sanjay Karol on Wednesday opted out from hearing a plea filed by the Bihar government against the Patna high court order, which stayed the caste survey by the state government.

The matter was listed before a bench of Justices B.R. Gavi and Sanjay Karol, who was the Chief Justice of the Patna high court before being elevated as apex court judge on February 6. Justice Karol said that he was party to some of the connected litigations, which were earlier heard in the high court.

The bench directed the matter be placed before Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud for constitution of an appropriate bench.

The government filed an appeal challenging the May 4 order of the HC. The state contended that the stay will adversely affect the entire exercise and collection of caste-based data is a constitutional mandate under Articles 15 and 16. The state government contended that it has already

The bench directed the matter be placed before Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud for constitution of an appropriate bench

completed more than 80 per cent of the survey work in some districts and less than 10 per cent of the work is pending. It further argued that the stay on the collection of data would cause a huge loss and if finally the action of the state is upheld, the state would be required to put logistics in place with additional expenditure and burden on the public exchequer.

The HC while hearing a batch of petitions, had directed the state government to immediately stop the caste-based survey. It also asked the state to ensure the data collected is secured and not shared with anybody until final orders in the matter and fixed July 3 as the next date for the hearing. IANS

HC orders Twitter to give BSI of handles leaking clips of 'Jawan'

New Delhi: The Delhi high court on Wednesday directed social media platform Twitter to provide Basic Subscriber Information (BSI) and other relevant details of five accounts responsible for leaking clips related to the upcoming Shah Rukh Khan-starrer "Jawan".

After the clips got leaked, the high court, on April 25, had directed social media platforms, 'shady' websites, cable TV outlets, direct-to-home services, and various other platforms to remove the leaked clips and stop their circulation as well.

Red Chillies Entertainment Private Ltd, a production house owned by Khan and his wife Gauri, had filed a lawsuit in the high court on this count. The entertainment company's counsel submitted before the bench of Justice C. Hari Shankar that the a fresh application was filed in view of certain additional leaks committed by the Twitter accounts in question.

It is the company's case that the nature of the leaks suggest that those running the Twitter handles had "ac-

cessed systems" of the plaintiff company. Therefore, the application seeks a direction on Twitter to disclose the BSI and other details including IP addresses, usernames, phone numbers in respect of the five Twitter handles.

Disposing of the application, Justice Shankar ordered: "Thus court directs the defendant no. 2 (Twitter) to provide information of five accounts by way of an affidavit as an additional document with advanced copy to the counsel of the plaintiff so that the plaintiff can take appropriate action." He had earlier directed social media sites like YouTube, Google, Twitter, and Reddit to take action to halt the circulation of the movie's copyrighted content and ordered a number of internet service providers to prohibit access to websites that were showing or making the movie's footage available for viewing or downloading. Two movie-related video snippets, according to the petitioner, were leaked on social media, one showing Shah Rukh Khan in a fight sequence, and the second showing a dance se-

quence.

"It is the plaintiff's (Red Chillies) case that these leaked video clips are nothing but clear violation of copyright/intellectual property rights of the plaintiff which are causing damage and loss to the plaintiff. The leaked video clips together give away the look of the actors in the said film, as well as the music, both of which are typically disclosed at strategic points in time as part of the carefully-crafted marketing strategy of a film," the high court was told. IANS

Pontiff accuses businessman of cheating

Madurai: The 293rd pontiff of Madurai Adheenam has accused a Pondicherry-based businessman of cheating his predecessor of land that belongs to the historic Shaivite mutt.

"Old Adheenam of Madurai gave 1200 acres of land to Shanmughan of Pondicherry for a few years but he cheated. I have already requested the PM to restore it and I am going to meet him again soon and demand that the land be restored as soon as possible," Harihara Desika Paramacharya told the sources.

The Madurai Adeenam's pontiff Harihara Desika Paramacharya alleged that the businessman had "cheated" the Madurai Adeenam administration by acting as lessor and lessee of his own company

charya told the sources.

"If the land is reclaimed then land will be given to build an agricultural college and schools," the pontiff added. The pontiff said that he had been fighting legally to get back the 1,200 acres of property of the Mutt since 2019.

The Madurai Adeenam's pontiff alleged that the businessman had "cheated" the Madurai Adeenam administration by acting as lessor and lessee of his own company by illegally and fraudulently using the general power of at-

torney of the contract given on behalf of the 292nd Adeenam pontiff. The pontiff said the businessman registered a memorandum of understanding in the south district registrar's Office, leasing the land to his company for 99 years, which is illegal.

He said when the mutt learnt that about 1200 acres of land has been "illegally leased", a notice of cancellation of the lease contract was been sent to the concerned person on behalf of the Mutt in 2019. ANI

Sabarimala trespassing: Police launches investigation

Pathanamthitta: The Kerala police on Wednesday launched an investigation into the incident of a man allegedly trespassing into Ponnambalamedu here, a hilltop area ritually connected with the famed Sabarimala Lord Ayyappa Temple. Police said they launched the investigation after registering a case on the basis of a complaint received from the commissioner of the Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB), which manages the hilltop shrine. The TDB official lodged the complaint with Moozhayar police in the district on Tuesday night. Meanwhile, the state forest department and the police probing the case have arrested the forest officials who allegedly allowed the entry of people into the protected forest area and allowed them to perform pujas. PTI

Telangana in grip of heat wave conditions

Hyderabad: Severe heat wave conditions prevailed in parts of Telangana with the maximum temperature crossing 46 degrees celsius on Wednesday.

Julurpad in Bhadradi Kothagudem district was the hottest place in the state with maximum temperature of 46.4 degrees celsius, according to the Telangana State Development Planning Society. Khanapur P.S. in Khammam, Bayyaram in Mahabubnagar, and Garimellapadu in Bhadradi Kothagudem recorded maximum temperature at 45.4 degrees celsius.

Mamillagudem (Suryapet) and Nidamanur (Nalgonda) saw mercury rising to 45.2 degrees celsius. Some places in Jayashankar Bhupalapally and Khammam districts recorded above 44 degrees celsius. The met office has forecast that dry conditions will prevail in Telangana over the next

three days. Dr K. Naga Ratna, head, Meteorological Centre, Hyderabad said maximum temperature will be 40 degrees and above at many places. In the north and north east Telangana, the highest temperature will be above 41 degrees. Hyderabad and adjoining districts are likely to record a maximum temperature of 38-40 degrees celsius. Meanwhile, health officials said the number of hospitalisations due to sun stroke has increased in different parts of the state due to heat wave conditions.

The health department has issued an advisory for citizens in view of the heat wave alert issued for the state by India Meteorological Department Hyderabad as Telangana. Director of public health Dr G. Srinivasa Rao has advised people to stay hydrated, stay indoors, and avoid direct exposure to sunlight. IANS

6 women killed in road accident in AP

Pondugula: Six women labourers from Telangana were killed and six others injured in a road accident at a village in Palnadu district of Andhra Pradesh on Wednesday, police said. Telangana CM K Chandrababtu Naidu condoled the death of the women and announced an ex-gratia of Rs five lakh each to the kin of the deceased. The accident occurred in the early hours of Wednesday when an autorickshaw in which the women were travelling was hit by a speeding truck at Pondugula village in Palnadu district resulting in the death of six women, police said. The women were proceeding to Pulipadu village in Palnadu district to harvest chillies. "A truck laden with lemons from Guduru, which was heading to Lucknow, hit the auto and sped away," police said.

THE MORNING BRIEF

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ET PLAY

BJP to pursue strong Hindutva agenda ahead of LS polls

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Bengaluru: Karnataka BJP, which has been under the scanner for the last few days after its dismal showing in the May 10 elections, is expected to overhaul its state leadership and pursue a strong Hindutva agenda to revive the party's electoral prospects for next year's Lok Sabha polls. Political observers feel the party failed to make an impact in the recent assembly polls as it went soft on the Hindutva ideology.

While the party will be looking to accord equal importance to all major communi-

ties in the state, as part of its rebuilding exercise, it is quite likely that it will be using the Hindutva agenda to shore up its prospects at the hustings.

Speaking to TOI, senior RSS and BJP functionaries said: "Until such time that a mass leader emerges from our ranks, which may take another five to ten years, the party is likely to persist with its core ideology of Hindutva. This despite Karnataka being a difficult state for us to have a single agenda."

Given such a possible policy reboot, BJP is looking towards right-wing leaders such as its national general

Villagers refuse to pay power bills

Koppal: Although it is not yet clear who will be the CM, people in rural areas of Koppal are refusing to pay electricity bills. If the bill collector comes, they are saying, "Ask the Congressmen." A video of a woman from Jamapura village in Karatagi taluk saying, "I will not pay the electricity bill because Congress has got majority," has gone viral. Most villagers are refusing to pay the bill. "Don't charge electricity bills for residential houses in the village. Charge only for commercial meters," some people warned the bill collector. In some places, the bill collector has been kicked out of the village. **TNN**

secretary CT Ravi, Union minister of state for agriculture Shobha Karandlaje and former energy minister V Sunil Kumar. Speculations are rife that Sunil Kumar, who is an Ediga representing

the OBCs and also close to the Sangh Parivar, may be the preferred choice.

Sunil, however, dismissed speculations and said he was not in the race for the party president's post, reite-

rating that caste-based politics is not the true ideology of the BJP.

"We are already facing a serious dearth of leaders in the state unit. We need to change our caste-based stance and remain true to our Hindu and Hindutva ideologies," he said.

While the BJP has been branded as a party of Lingayats and Brahmins, JD(S) has projected itself as a Vokkaliga outfit. In contrast, Congress has emerged the biggest beneficiary of caste politics by keeping all communities close to its fold. Given such a political reality, BJP has come to realise that its brand of

caste-based politics in Karnataka can only take it tantalisingly close to the majority mark, but never quite across it, even though it may not completely shed its caste matrix that is woven into Karnataka's socio-political fabric.

"The caste matrix will continue to be at the core of electoral success, we cannot disregard it. For example, if Basavaraj Bommai is elected as opposition leader, then automatically we will have a leader from the Vokkaliga community to take the mantle [of state president]," said BJP state general secretary N Ravi Kumar.



'Cobras' will help ease traffic issues in M'luru city

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mangaluru: The city police inducted four Cobra two-wheeler traffic patrol vehicles, two each for Traffic East and West police stations respectively. This will help reduce the response time and solve traffic issues, said city police commissioner Kuldeep Kumar R Jain.

He told reporters that the vehicles were launched on Tuesday. These are dedicated vehicles to address traffic issues. The vehicle will have a siren and mike setup. The police will rush to address any traffic incident or accident.

"They will streamline parking and take action against wrong parking by quickly putting wheel clamps and so on. We will concentrate on freeing footpaths from hawkers. The teams will be continuously on rounds so that designated areas are better for movement. They will play an important role in managing VIP movements or helping in creating a green corridor for ambulance



READY FOR ACTION

movement," he said.

Once the department gets more vehicles, the facility will be extended to other police stations in the city and it is probably for the first time that such a facility is introduced in the city. Traffic patrol vehicles were flagged off by the city police commissioner in the presence of DCP (vime and traffic) BP Dinesh Kumar, ACP traffic subdivision Geetha Kulkarni and other officials.

A few years ago, the Bengaluru traffic police launched a special squad of policemen named Cobra patrol teams who would respond to traffic congestion and road accidents within 10-15 minutes.

False alert: B'luru cops rush to prepare for swearing-in

They Had Also Made Security Arrangements

Rajiv Kalkod@timesgroup.com

Bengaluru / Mysuru: Police faced embarrassing moments on Wednesday after they rushed to make preparations for the chief minister's swearing-in ceremony only to realise they had acted on a false prompt. "The political oscillation between CM aspirants Siddaramaiah and DK Shivakumar has been taking a heavy toll on us. When a few television channels announced that the Congress high command in Delhi has given the green signal to Siddaramaiah, we decided to swing into action and make



OUR LEADER: Siddaramaiah's fans pour milk on his cutout in Siddaramanahundi on Wednesday

the swearing-in ceremony smooth instead of allowing it to become a last-minute logistical nightmare," said a senior police officer.

The officials rushed to the stadium, where Siddaramai-

ah had taken oath in 2013, to make security arrangements. Expecting a turnout of over one lakh people. Cops also came up with crowd-control plans in case of an unforeseen exigency as several neighbouring state CMs are expected to attend the event (whenver it takes place).

In the meantime, a section of Congress workers landed at the stadium with party flags and banners. "We were told to soak the stadium with Congress flags and Siddaramaiah's posters. We started working on the same when the policemen told us to stop and dismantle everything," said a party worker.

Premature celebrations in Siddaramaiah's village Celebrations continued, however, for several hours in front of Siddaramaiah's

house in Mysuru district's Varuna constituency. Some of his supporters poured milk on his cutout and did 'abhisheka' in Siddaramaiah's village Siddaramanahundi.

One of his supporters, upset on learning about the false alarm, said, "We hope the high command will select Siddaramaiah for the coveted post. This is his last election and he has also toured the state at the age of 75."

Meanwhile, police upped security around Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar's residences. In Ramanagara district's Kanakapura where Shivakumar won with a thumping majority, senior police officers decided to continue deployment of KSRP platoons.

With inputs from Shriniwasa M

Ramesh wins on home turf, but his acolytes don't

Ravindra Uppar
@timesgroup.com

Belagavi: Gokak MLA Ramesh Jarkiholi has failed to make any impact outside his home constituency in the assembly elections. All the BJP candidates who had his backing were defeated miserably in their respective constituencies. This definitely raises a question on his leadership abilities and portends the end of his political career, too.

Jarkiholi has been constantly in the news for the past four years, since the faction of legislators led by him camped in Mumbai to topple the JD(S)-Congress coalition government. His war of words with MLA Laxmi Hebbalkar on the personal level and 'sex for job' scandal also kept him in the lime-light. However, his failure in ensuring the victory of his followers in the elections and BJP losing power in the state has made him silent.

He had taken the challenge of getting the BJP candidates elected in Athani, Kagawad and Belagavi Rural, where his close aides were contesting. In fact, he had put pressure on the BJP top leadership to get them tickets to contest the polls. Moreover, he made BJP's win in all the three segments a prestigious issue. "If we lose any of these three seats, it would be a big insult for us," he had stated during election campaigning, but BJP won none of them.

The seven-time MLA did everything in his capacity to tarnish the image of MLA Laxmi Hebbalkar in Belagavi Rural constituency. He attacked her personally while speaking to the media and addressing public gatherings.

He held many public meetings in Hebbalkar's constituency to gather public support in favour of his follower and BJP candidate Nagesh Mannolkar. Amid this, a controversy broke out when Jarkiholi stated that he will give Rs 6,000 to each voter before the elections following which Congress registered an FIR against him in Bengaluru. Despite all these efforts made by Jarkiholi, Hebbalkar won by a margin of 56,106 votes.

Similarly, Jarkiholi had taken the challenge of defeating former deputy CM Laxman Savadi in Athani, who had switched to Congress. Though Jarkiholi attacked Savadi during campaigning, Savadi remained silent about the allegations and taunts. However, BJP candidate Mahesh Kumathalli lost by a margin of 76,122 votes against Savadi.

Likewise, another BJP candidate Shrimant Patil also lost miserably in Kagawad assembly constituency against Congress candidate Raju Kage. Kage defeated Shrimant Patil by a margin of 8,827 votes.

According to political analysts, it's the end of the political road for Jarkiholi.

The former minister had taken the task of ensuring the victories of BJP candidates in Athani, Belagavi Rural and Kagawad, but none of them could win

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20 with 'Patil' surname elected

Sangamesh Menasinakai@timesgroup.com

Hubballi: Post-assembly polls, the 'Patil' surname is suddenly in news and for all the right reasons, as 20 of them have been elected as MLAs.

Patil is a widely used surname in Karnataka, Maharashtra, Goa and even in Andhra Pradesh (AP). In Maharashtra, Goa and AP, Patils have been village leaders. In North Karnataka, they are fondly referred to as 'Goudru'. This time around, in the assembly polls, 87 candidates with the Patil surname were in the fray and 20 of them won while 12 are from the Congress, seven from BJP and one from JD(S).

Amaresh Nugadoni, a storyteller and retired professor of Kannada University, Hampi, noted that 'Patil' was a post assigned by the British, Peshwas and Nizams to local leaders to look after the villages. "Normally, Patils are Lingayats," Nugadoni said. "However, there are exceptions as we find the Patil surname among

Candidate	Party	Constituency
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Babasaheb Patil	Cong	Kittur
JT Patil	Cong	Bilgi
BB Patil	JD(S)	Devara Hippargi
Shivanand Patil	Cong	Basavana Bagevadi
MB Patil	Cong	Babaleshwar
Basanagouda Patil	BJP	Vijayapura City
Yashavantaryagoud Patil	Cong	Indi
MY Patil	Cong	Afzalpur

Brahmins, Kurubas and the Maratha communities as well," he added.

"The Patil surname was conferred upon upper castes and financially, they were quite well-off. The British, Peshwas and Nizams used to give 'inams' and 'jahagirs' to village leaders. Hence, the 'Inamdar' and 'Jahagirdar' surnames were seen as parallel to Patils, who would manage the panchayats as the ru-

lers' representatives," he noted.

GS Patil, a four-time Congress MLA from Ron who claimed that his family had a 200-year history, said, "Our forefathers were called 'Policepatil' and they used to take care of the village. When the 'Policepatil' post was quashed after independence, we removed the word 'police' and only retained 'Patil' as our surname," he explained.

Online gender transition courses launched

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mangaluru: On International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism, and Transphobia (IDAHO-BIT), TransgenderIndia, an organisation dedicated to empowering the transgender community has released a first-of-its-kind online gender transition course platform. The platform has been designed to provide medical, legal and social transition resources for transgender individuals. This initiative marks a significant step towards fostering inclusivity and combating discrimination faced by the LGBTQIA+ community, particularly transgender individuals.

AN NGO INITIATIVE

TransgenderIndia's online platform features a vast collection of videos and courses, both in English and Hindi are meticulously designed to provide step-by-step guidance about medical, legal and social transition, said its founder Neysara. "These resources not only assist individuals in seeking appropriate transition support, but also offer valuable insights into the process, helping them navigate it with confidence and without fear. Despite the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) classifying gender dysphoria as a non-pathological condition, many doctors still perceive it as a disease. However, a small number of trans-friendly doctors in the country offer support to transgender individuals seeking to undergo a gender transition," she said.

On the legal front, go-

vernment ID cards are required for various everyday activities. However, lakhs of transgender individuals, face challenges in proving their Indian citizenship, let alone obtaining or transferring government ID cards and educational degrees. While the government has established a process for changing gender on legal documents, many transgender people are unaware of it.

For the courses, TransgenderIndia has partnered with qualified professionals, including doctors, lawyers, and non-governmental organisations, who possess extensive experience and a proven track record of delivering exceptional care to the transgender community. These experts specialise in areas such as psychiatry, hormone replacement therapy, surgery, legal matters, and employment opportunities, ensuring comprehensive support across various aspects of transgender individuals' lives. "The courses delve into topics such as hormone replacement therapy, surgery, coming out, legal gender changes, equal employment opportunities and so on. This is probably first of its kind course in the world," she said.

"We have dedicated over two years of relentless effort, from course design to rigorous testing, to bring this initiative to life. The journey involved extensive collaboration with doctors, lawyers, and various professionals, as well as meticulous recording and presentation of our hard work," stated Paras K Dogra, project manager TransgenderIndia.com. The online resources are accessible to everyone.

She helps preserve Varmala, umbilical cord through resin art

Deepthi.Sanjiv@timesgroup.com

Udupi: There are certain items that women are truly possessive about, and if given a chance, would never want to part with them. An important ritual in Hindu weddings is exchanging of garlands, known as 'varmala', by bride and groom. These garlands are made of fresh flowers and these days, couples make sure they have the best and unique one to complement the wedding wear. However, many would want to preserve 'varmala' for the rest of their lives, but do not know how to go about it.

Cashing on this sentiment, Padmakshi Amarnath Bhandary, an entrepreneur from Kundapu, launched Art Yogi and the response has been good so far.

Padmakshi told TOI: "People who know about preservation of 'varmalas' from this region tend to send it to entrepreneurs in north India. There are a few entrepreneurs in the state. Sadly, many do not know how to preserve them and end up dumping the garland in the fridge after the wedding, which is a big no. Also, in case couples want to preserve the garlands, they can speak to us before finalising the same. We



FOR KEEPSAKE: Padmakshi Amarnath Bhandary

suggest them flowers having better shelf life. We are also planning to start a pickup service for garlands so that they can be preserved in a better way. On several occasions, by the time garlands reach us, there is hardly anything left to preserve."

A Mangalorean, Padmakshi quit her corporate job in Mumbai and shifted to Kundapur after her husband, a bank employee, was transferred here. A mother of twins, a boy and a girl, her love for art started when she was pregnant, but went to the next level during the Covid-induced lockdown. "We customise and preserve 'varmalas' in photo frames, wall frames with LED lighting, nameplates and the

like. The price is in range of Rs 3,000 to Rs 10,000 or more," Padmakshi said.

She has worked on several other items that have an emotional connection, including baby's umbilical cord, a keepsake that is gaining popularity. The same is also preserved through resin art, a form that uses resin (epoxy or casting) as one of its main supplies. Padmakshi is also working on jewellery from breast milk that is often preserved as pendants and key chains. At present, she is engaged in designing a silver bracelet with a gold pendant with breast milk in the shape of a baby's feet. "There is a growing demand for jewellery from breast milk," Padmakshi claimed.

Rupali Nayak from Mumbai said she had contacted Padmakshi a few days before her wedding in February, and the latter had explained in detail how the garland should be packed and couriered so she could make the maximum use of flowers and other accessories. "Unfortunately, I misplaced my wedding garland. But luckily, saved my reception garland and bridal 'jada'. I can't stop admiring the frame," she added.

Pushcart vendor who tried to stop fight stabbed to death

Kalaburagi: A man who tried to break a fight was stabbed to death in Yadgir late on Monday night. The deceased is Shrinivas, who used to sell food items on a pushcart.

On Monday night, he had gone to a hotel to have dinner. The hotel is next to a wine shop. Customers of both the establishments had parked their ve-

hicles on the street. The wine shop owner could not take his car out as it was blocked by vehicles. He went to the hotel and requested its owner to ask the customers to move the bikes parked behind his car. A verbal clash ensued. After hearing the arguments, a labourer named Mohammad Anaas walked out of the hotel with a knife

and started to attack the bar owner. Shrinivas intervened in a bid to stop the fight but the accused stabbed him in a fit of rage. The victim died due to excessive bleeding. Yadgir Police have filed the complaint against five persons including the hotel owner Abdul Sattar and prime accused Mohammad Anaas. **TNN**

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BJP to pursue strong Hindutva agenda ahead of LS polls

Sandeep Moudgal
@timesgroup.com

Bengaluru: Karnataka BJP, which has been under the scanner for the last few days after its dismal showing in the May 10 elections, is expected to overhaul its state leadership and pursue a strong Hindutva agenda to revive the party's electoral prospects for next year's Lok Sabha polls. Political observers feel the party failed to make an impact in the recent assembly polls as it went soft on the Hindutva ideology.

While the party will be looking to accord equal importance to all major communi-

ties in the state, as part of its rebuilding exercise, it is quite likely that it will be using the Hindutva agenda to shore up its prospects at the hustings.

Speaking to TOI, senior RSS and BJP functionaries said: "Until such time that a mass leader emerges from our ranks, which may take another five to ten years, the party is likely to persist with its core ideology of Hindutva. This despite Karnataka being a difficult state for us to have a single agenda."

Given such a possible policy reboot, BJP is looking towards right-wing leaders such as its national general

Villagers refuse to pay power bills

Koppal: Although it is not yet clear who will be the CM, people in rural areas of Koppal are refusing to pay electricity bills. If the bill collector comes, they are saying, "Ask the Congressmen." A video of a woman from Jamapura village in Karatagi taluk saying, "I will not pay the electricity bill because Congress has got majority," has gone viral. Most villagers are refusing to pay the bill. "Don't charge electricity bills for residential houses in the village. Charge only for commercial meters," some people warned the bill collector. In some places, the bill collector has been kicked out of the village. **TNN**

secretary CT Ravi, Union minister of state for agriculture Shobha Karandlaje and former energy minister V Sunil Kumar. Speculations are rife that Sunil Kumar, who is an Ediga representing

the OBCs and also close to the Sangh Parivar, may be the preferred choice.

Sunil, however, dismissed speculations and said he was not in the race for the party president's post, reite-

rating that caste-based politics is not the true ideology of the BJP.

"We are already facing a serious dearth of leaders in the state unit. We need to change our caste-based stance and remain true to our Hindu and Hindutva ideologies," he said.

While the BJP has been branded as a party of Lingayats and Brahmins, JD(S) has projected itself as a Vokkaliga outfit. In contrast, Congress has emerged the biggest beneficiary of caste politics by keeping all communities close to its fold. Given such a political reality, BJP has come to realise that its brand of

caste-based politics in Karnataka can only take it tantalisingly close to the majority mark, but never quite across it, even though it may not completely shed its caste matrix that is woven into Karnataka's socio-political fabric.

"The caste matrix will continue to be at the core of electoral success, we cannot disregard it. For example, if Basavaraj Bommai is elected as opposition leader, then automatically we will have a leader from the Vokkaliga community to take the mantle [of state president]," said BJP state general secretary N Ravi Kumar.



False alert: B'luru cops rush to prepare for swearing-in

They Had Also Made Security Arrangements

Rajiv Kalkod@timesgroup.com

Bengaluru / Mysuru: Police faced embarrassing moments on Wednesday after they rushed to make preparations for the chief minister's swearing-in ceremony only to realise they had acted on a false prompt. "The political oscillation between CM aspirants Siddaramaiah and DK Shivakumar has been taking a heavy toll on us. When a few television channels announced that the Congress high command in Delhi has given the green signal to Siddaramaiah, we decided to swing into action and make



OUR LEADER: Siddaramaiah's fans pour milk on his cutout in Siddaramaiah's village on Wednesday

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had taken oath in 2013, to make security arrangements. Expecting a turnout of over one lakh people. Cops also came up with crowd-control plans in case of an unforeseen exigency as several neighbouring state CMs are expected to attend the event (whenver it takes place).

In the meantime, a section of Congress workers landed at the stadium with party flags and banners. "We were told to soak the stadium with Congress flags and Siddaramaiah's posters. We started working on the same when the policemen told us to stop and dismantle everything," said a party worker.

Premature celebrations in Siddaramaiah's village Celebrations continued, however, for several hours in front of Siddaramaiah's

house in Mysuru district's Varuna constituency. Some of his supporters poured milk on his cutout and did 'abhisheka' in Siddaramaiah's village Siddaramanahundi.

One of his supporters, upset on learning about the false alarm, said, "We hope the high command will select Siddaramaiah for the coveted post. This is his last election and he has also toured the state at the age of 75."

Meanwhile, police upped security around Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar's residences. In Ramanagara district's Kanakapura where Shivakumar won with a thumping majority, senior police officers decided to continue deployment of KSRP platoons.

With inputs from Shrinivasa M

Ramesh wins on home turf, but his acolytes don't

Ravindra Uppar
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Belagavi: Gokak MLA Ramesh Jarkiholi has failed to make any impact outside his home constituency in the assembly elections. All the BJP candidates who had his backing were defeated miserably in their respective constituencies. This definitely raises a question on his leadership abilities and portends the end of his political career, too.

Jarkiholi has been constantly in the news for the past four years, since the faction of legislators led by him camped in Mumbai to topple the JD(S)-Congress coalition government. His war of words with MLA Laxmi Hebbalkar on the personal level and 'sex for job' scandal also kept him in the limelight. However, his failure in ensuring the victory of his followers in the elections and BJP losing power in the state has made him silent.

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He held many public meetings in Hebbalkar's constituency to gather public support in favour of his follower and BJP candidate Nagesh Mannolkar. Amid this, a controversy broke out when Jarkiholi stated that he will give Rs 6,000 to each voter before the elections following which Congress registered an FIR against him in Bengaluru. Despite all these efforts made by Jarkiholi, Hebbalkar won by a margin of 56,106 votes.

Similarly, Jarkiholi had taken the challenge of defeating former deputy CM Laxman Savadi in Athani, who had switched to Congress. Though Jarkiholi attacked Savadi during campaigning, Savadi remained silent about the allegations and taunts. However, BJP candidate Mahesh Kumathalli lost by a margin of 76,122 votes against Savadi.

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PROTECTING LANGUAGES: Linguist Anvita Abbis stressed on the need to revive all endangered, lesser-known languages at a meet at CIIL in Mysuru on Wednesday

'Languages spoken by tribes need to be documented'

S Ramesh | TNN

Mysuru: Linguist Anvita Abbis, on Wednesday, stressed the need for documentation of languages spoken by minority communities to preserve these languages for future generations.

She was speaking the inauguration of training workshop on documentation of languages facing extinction organised by the Central Institute of Indian Languages (CIIL) at its campus. She said, "Efforts like proper research, survey, data collection, field work, analysis, archiving and documentation are must for conservation of languages that are facing danger."

"Though India is known for its linguistic diversity, few of them are facing threat. Some are spoken only at home, while some languages have become dormant without proper documentation," she said. "There is an urgent need for documentation of all endangered languages spoken by Onge, Jarawa tribes of Great Andamanese, which is one of the oldest languages in the world," she said.

"Language is an effective communication, there were instances of thousands of these tribes who saved their lives when they were fishing when a tsunami struck the seashores of Andaman Nicobar Islands a few years ago. Likewise, there are several endangered languages like Halbi in Bastar region of Chhattisgarh, Sadari Jharkhand, north-eastern states languages like Chokri, Kheza, Sanga-

tan and Teniyada. "As documentation helps for revival of all endangered, lesser-known languages, including spoken by numerically small communities, there is an urgent need for such documentation which also throw light about past history, glory and the vibrant culture existed in their country," she said.

As several indigenous languages have become extinct across the world without proper documentation, a proper plan and solution is needed for revival of such languages, Abbis said.

Highlighting the role of researchers involved in such documentation undertaken by CIIL, she said, "The documentation of minority languages always gives satisfaction for researchers for conserving vibrant culture, besides safeguarding the individual speech of such communities as well as through much light upon the history of the country."

CIIL director Shailendra Mohan said the nation is a multilingual country with the presence of 22 scheduled and 100 non-scheduled languages and 270 mother tongues. Still there are many languages which are spoken by less than 10,000 people. There is an urgent need to document, describe, prepare dictionaries, grammar and other teaching and learning resources for the development of these languages, he said.

Linguists Umarani Pappuswamy, Narayan Choudhary and Sujoy Sarkar were present.

20 with 'Patil' surname elected

Sangamesh Menasinakal@timesgroup.com

Hubballi: Post-assembly polls, the 'Patil' surname is suddenly in news and for all the right reasons, as 20 of them have been elected as MLAs.

Patil is a widely used surname in Karnataka, Maharashtra, Goa and even in Andhra Pradesh (AP). In Maharashtra, Goa and AP, Patils have been village leaders. In North Karnataka, they are fondly referred to as 'Goudru'. This time around, in the assembly polls, 87 candidates with the Patil surname were in the fray and 20 of them won while 12 are from the Congress, seven from BJP and one from JD(S).

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PATILS IN 16TH ASSEMBLY OF KARNATAKA

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Babasaheb Patil	Cong	Kittur	Allamprabhu Patil	Cong	Gulbarga South
JT Patil	Cong	Bilgi	Siddu Patil	BJP	Humnabad
BB Patil	JD(S)	Devara Hippargi	Shivaraj Patil	BJP	Raichur
Shivanand Patil	Cong	Basavana Bagevadi	Doddanagouda Patil	BJP	Kushtagi
MB Patil	Cong	Babaleswar	HK Patil	Cong	Gadag
Basanagouda Patil	BJP	Vijayapura City	GS Patil	Cong	Ron
Yashavantaraygoud Patil	Cong	Indi	CC Patil	BJP	Nargund
MY Patil	Cong	Afzalpur	MR Patil	BJP	Kundgol
			VS Patil	Cong	Yellapur

Brahmins, Kurubas and the Maratha communities as well," he added.

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Party trying to ensure there is consensus

► Continued from page 1

One of the new options they are discussing is making Shivakumar the CM and appointing Siddaramaiah as the party president until the Lok Sabha elections.

"We are trying to ensure that there is a consensus between both factions and that there is no heartburn among the two communities the leaders represent. Only then will we make the announcement. We don't want either of them to be sulking," said another party functionary.

Speculations are also rife that the Congress may even decide on a full-fledged cabinet and announce the first set of ministers' names in the same vein. In the morning, the news that Siddaramaiah had got the nod led to farcical scenes in Bengaluru.

A fake letter from the

Karnataka government to governor Thawar Chand Gehlot communicating about the swearing-in ceremony on Thursday also went viral.

While supporters setting off fireworks, dancing and sloganeering was to be expected what was a surprise was Kanteveera Stadium, the purported scene for the swearing-in, being readied for the event.

Bengaluru police and the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (DPAR) went into an overdrive. "Our people got so excited that the Bengaluru police, sports department, and DPAR went ahead to sanitise the stadium and roll out the red carpet for the swearing-in. Later, it was realised that no decision was taken, and the same was rolled back," said a government official.

Man who tried to stop fight stabbed to death

Kalaburagi: A man who tried to break a fight was stabbed to death in Yadgir late on Monday night. The deceased is Shrinivas, who used to sell food items on a push cart.

On Monday night, he had gone to a hotel to have dinner as his wife had gone to her parents' house. The hotel is next to a wine shop. Customers of both the establishments had parked their vehicles on the street. The wine shop owner could not take his car out as it was blocked by some vehicles. He went to the hotel and requested its owner to ask the customers to move the two wheelers parked behind his car.

A verbal clash ensued. After hearing the arguments, a labourer named Mohammad Anaas walked out of the hotel with a knife and started to attack the bar owner.

Shrinivas intervened in a bid to stop the fight but the accused stabbed him in a fit of rage. The victim died while being taken to hospital. Yadgir Police have filed the complaint against five persons including the hotel owner Abdul Sattar and prime accused Mohammad Anaas. It is said that all the five are absconding.

Meanwhile, a BJP worker in Yadgir town claimed that the deceased was a BJP worker. **TNN**