

Govt college makes history: DNA Correspondent BANGALORE

DNA impact: 'History'cal blunder by Govt PU College, Varthur, earns a notice

Pre-university education department has issued a notice to Govt PU College, Varthur, seeking an explanation on a history lecturer allegedly awarding marks to students who had written only questions in their answer-scripts in the I PU supplementary exam on May 2010, dept director Rashmi V Mahesh said.

BRIEF CASE



Safety regulations are violated with impunity at BBMP headquarters, where labourers working on a new building face danger at every step
—Anantha Subramanyam K

Govt may give you more time to keep your hearth burning

DNA Correspondent BANGALORE

Although the department of food and civil supplies has fixed August 4 as the last day for submitting relevant documents on LPG connections, it may extend the deadline. On July 21, the department had published a notice listing the connections which had been suspended or were under verification across the state. It said the errors could be corrected on the spot if consumers produced the right documents within 15 days.

However, department sources said the government was likely to give more time to consumers to save their gas connection. Thousands of consumers are facing problems due to failure in producing their ration cards, electricity meter RR number and LPG gas customer number. The department admitted that there could be mistakes in the



data entered. It listed 27,74,646 cases where LPG consumers did not turn up to furnish their ration card or electricity meter RR number. There were 275,223 cases with no RR number. In 182,960 cases, the RR numbers did not match with those entered in electricity supply company charts provided to the department. BA Harish Gowda, secretary of the department, said those who

had produced correct RR number and still had their gas connections suspended could come to the department and get the data corrected by showing the electricity bill. People can meet the deputy commissioner, the directors of taluk offices in rural areas to enter the correct data. The department ruled out the possibility of punishing people until it was proved that their gas connection was illegal.

The food and civil supplies department has deployed National Informatics Centre (NIC) officers to verify those cases where one electricity meter RR number is connected to more than one LPG connection. The officers will verify each case by going from door to door: If a customer is not available, they will visit the house again. The department will update the list of defaulters every week.

Techie & friends get life sentence

The three men had kidnapped Nawaz for ransom, later killed him and dumped his body into a drum filled with acid

Santosh Kumar RB BANGALORE

A software engineer and his two associates have been awarded life imprisonment in the brutal murder of a 21-year-old BSc student seven years after the incident took place under Ulsoor police station limits. The 11th Fast Track Court on Friday also slapped a fine of ₹90,000 each on the three convicts — software engineer Sheikh Rahees Ahmed alias Jamal, Shafiulla Sharif alias Shafi and Tajmul Ahmed alias Tajju — all aged between 26 and 30. The court also ordered the convicts to pay ₹1.5 lakh to the family of victim. More than 57 witnesses were examined in the case. The court had convicted the trio on Thursday. The convicts had on July 11, 2004 kidnapped Nawaz Ahmed, a student in a private college and son of businessman Riyaz Ahmed, a resident of Saraswathipuram in Ulsoor. Nawaz was killed the same day.



Sheikh Rahees Ahmed, Shafiulla Sharif and Tajmul Ahmed, who have been convicted for killing their friend and relative Nawaz



THE VERDICT

- Life imprisonment and ₹25,000 fine under Section 302 (punishment for murder) of IPC. One more year in jail if convicts fail to pay the fine.
- Life imprisonment and ₹25,000 fine under Section 120B (punishment for criminal conspiracy) of IPC. One more year in jail if convicts fail to pay the fine.
- Life imprisonment and fine of ₹25,000 under Section 364A (kidnapping for ransom) of IPC. One more year in jail if convicts fail to pay the fine.
- Five years rigorous imprisonment and ₹10,000 fine for under Section 201 (causing disappearance of evidence of offence) of IPC. Six months in jail if convicts fail to pay the fine.
- Two years rigorous imprisonment and ₹5,000 fine under Section 404 (dishonest misappropriation of property possessed by deceased person at the time of his death) of IPC. Six months in jail if convicts fail to pay the fine amount.

How they killed

The main accused in the case Jamal, is a native of Karimnagar in Andhra Pradesh. He studied in Australia, went to the US for job and then came to Bangalore to float a software company. The company could not do well. Jamal came in contact with the two other youth, Shafi and Tajju, close relatives of the victim Nawaz. The three planned to kidnap Nawaz for ransom as his father was a businessman who ran a thriving scrap business. They planned to collect ₹1 crore as ransom.



On July 11, 2004, Shafi invited Nawaz to accompany him to a housewarming function. Nawaz was kidnapped from St Marks Road and taken to Jamal's house in Wilson Garden. Then, they killed him in house on the same day by strangulating with a wire. After killing Nawaz, the convicts took the victim's photograph with mouth and eyes tied with a cloth. The body was kept in a plastic drum filled with hydrochloric acid before disposing it of in D Hosahalli near Kadugodi. Meanwhile, the victim's father Riyaz had filed a missing complaint with Ulsoor police. He received the ransom letter with his son's photo on July 20, 2004 and then the second letter two days later. He was asked to pay ₹1 crore as ransom. Riyaz filed a kidnapping case with Ulsoor police; the case was trans-

Old lady smothered to death

DNA Correspondent BANGALORE

A 65-year-old woman was found murdered in her house under mysterious circumstances on Marenahalli Main Road in MC Layout on Friday. The deceased has been identified as BS Anandamma, who was staying in the house with her younger sister Chandramma. Police suspect that the woman might have been murdered over property issues as she was involved in property dispute cases pending before the court. She was also running illegal money lending business. The incident happened when four people entered her house around 6.45 pm. Police suspect that the miscreants smothered Anandamma with a towel. They fled the scene with the woman's gold chain and a pair of earrings. Chandramma initially told police that the miscreants slit her sister's throat. However, police did not find any blood flow-

After killing Anandamma, four unidentified men fled the spot with a gold chain and a pair of earrings. Police suspect property dispute as the reason behind the murder

came to Anandamma's house asking the address of real estate broker Mary. Neighbours told the four that they did not Mary. The assailants then entered Anandamma's house and were there for over 30 minutes having some interaction. After killing Anandamma, they fled the scene. Police have seized some slippers left by the killers. The body has been shifted to Victoria Hospital for a post-mortem examination. Police said that the deceased had a building in Yelahanka, six houses in Vijayanagar, four acres of land and a site in Chikkanayakanahalli. Her husband and two sons had died some years ago. Two other sons — Mohan and Krishna — stay elsewhere. Mohan, who resides in Nela-mangala and is an employee of BHEL, came to spot after coming to know about the murder. A case has been registered in Vijayanagar police station. Investigation is on.

SMS traffic police to register complaints

DNA Correspondent BANGALORE

To empower citizens with more information on traffic-related harassments, the traffic police have started the SMS short code 52225. Harassed commuters can file police complaints against autorickshaw drivers who overcharge and refuse a ride by sending SMSes to 52225. Many parking lots have already been linked to the Traffic Management Centre (TMC) and many more will be connected to the system. People can call 24-hour hotlines 2558 8444 and 2558 8555 for traffic-related queries, suggestions and complaints.

When autorickshaw drivers refuse a ride:
AUTO<SPACE>REF<SPACE>AUTO REGISTRATION

When autorickshaw drivers overcharge:
AUTO<SPACE>OVR<SPACE>E> AUTO REGISTRATION NUMBER<SPACE>LOCATI ON<SPACE>TIME OF OVERCHARGING

For info on pending challans of vehicles:
BTIS<SPACE>FINE<SPACE>E>VEHICLE NO

eg: BTIS FINE KA01XY1234

To know parking space:
BTIS<SPACE>PARK

To update change of ownership:
BTIS<SPACE>RTO<SPACE>E>VEHICLE NO

To subscribe to free real time traffic alerts, type JOIN BTP and send it to 567678

Kabab centre owner stabbed 30 times

DNA Correspondent BANGALORE

A 38-year-old man, who ran a kabab centre, was hacked to death by four assailants in Jayanagar on Thursday night. The deceased has been identified as Paramesh Kumar, a resident of KS Layout. The incident happened around 9 pm on Thursday near his kabab centre. The four assailants, believed to be known to Paramesh, attacked him with daggers and knives. He was stabbed more than 30 times and he died instantly. Police have registered a murder case against Sharath alias Katu, Ravi alias Sade Ravi and others, all residents of Jayanagar. Police said that the real motive behind the murder could be revealed only after the arrest of the accused, adding that the gang had some disputes with Paramesh. The victim was involved in the making of crime show in a private news channel. Paramesh had helped the murder suspects get released on bail in a case against them. Police said that the gang had planned to attack their rivals and the idea was opposed by Paramesh who had asked them to stop their criminal activities. The gang did not pay any heed to Paramesh's advice and murdered him. Tilakanagar police have taken some suspects into custody for investigation.

Govt docs' transfer: HC says 'yes' to counselling

DNA Correspondent BANGALORE

The high court on Friday permitted the health and family welfare department to go ahead with the counselling process for the transfer of government doctors to various hospitals, which was scheduled to be held on August 1. Doctors Dhananjay and others have challenged that the recent transfers called by the department are not in accordance with the Medical Officers' Act and Karnataka Civil Services (Regulation of Transfer of Medical officers

and other Staff) Act, 2011. According to the Act, before the transfers are announced, counselling of doctors should be called for by the state government. However, no such procedure was adopted by the state this time. The division bench headed by justice Manjula Chellur permitted the health and family welfare department to go ahead with the counselling for transfer on August 1. It has also permitted the authorities to announce the results. However, the department has been asked not to effect any transfers until the next hearing on August 9.

Give Dalits their land, court tells govt

DNA Correspondent BANGALORE

The high court on Friday directed the state government to make sure that land acquired for the purpose of housing poor and weaker sections of society is actually granted to them. The direction came as the court was hearing a case filed by Chandrashekar and others, claiming that land was identified for providing sites to Dalits in Hosakere village,



Amruthur hobli, Kunigal taluk, Tumkur, in 1958. The state government acquired the land in 1961, but the sites have still to be allotted. The

petitioners sought that the land be denotified, as half a century had elapsed since the land was acquired. The court dismissed the writ petition, issuing orders to the state government to give the land acquired for the layout in Hosakere village to Dalits. Justice Nagarathna said that land acquired for the purpose of providing housing to weaker sections of society should reach intended beneficiaries.

Civic budget will be tabled on Aug 10

DNA Correspondent BANGALORE

Despite the political uncertainty prevailing in the state, BBMP's ruling party leader BR Nanjundappa reaffirmed that the 2011-12 budget would be presented on August 10. The council meeting began on Friday with Congress party corporators demanding early presentation of the budget. Sporting black bandana around their heads and holding placards, Opposition party leader M Udayshankar and others protested saying there should not be any more delay in the budget. When BJP corporators objected to the presence of placards in the council hall, mayor Sharadamma immediately ordered the staff to remove the placards and bandanas from the hall. JD(S) leader Padmanabha Reddy expressed doubts over the ruling party's assurance that the budget would be presented on August 10. "The chief minister had promised ₹1,300 crore to the BBMP. But he did not keep his promise. The Palike's financial status is very poor. The taxation and finance committee is deliberately delaying the budget as there are no funds", Reddy said. He challenged the ruling party to present a white paper on the financial status and development works undertaken by the BBMP over the past three years. Nanjundappa tried to dispel doubts over the budget.



Opposition members protesting in the well of the BBMP Council on Friday

"We had pre-budget meetings with party leaders. We have prepared the draft and strengthened the Palike's financial resources. The government has been updated about the status of the BBMP budget," he said.

Marriage halls

During zero hour, Yediyur corporator NR Ramesh raised the issue of halls holding marriages and parties evading tax. "According to officials, there are only 429 marriage halls. But in reality, there are 659 marriage halls and over 750 party halls. While 73 marriage halls charge more than ₹3 lakh as rent, 169 halls charge more than ₹1 lakh, 231 halls charge from ₹50,000 to ₹1 lakh and 186 halls charge less than ₹50,000," Ramesh said. Siddaiah assured him that he would order a survey of marriage and party halls in the city. He wanted corporators to provide him details of halls which were evading tax in their respective wards.

HARISH HANDE BELIEVES THAT THE POTENTIAL FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY SOLUTIONS IS IMMENSE

'Policies are mockery of poverty alleviation'

Merlin Francis BANGALORE

Winning the Ramon Magsaysay award is not merely a proud moment for Harish Hande; it is also a reminder of a greater responsibility he has to shoulder. The 44-year-old, who established Solar Electric Light Company (SELCO) in 1995, has been working towards dispelling the myth that the poor cannot afford or maintain the best of technology. SELCO, by providing solar energy solutions to over one lakh homes in India, has demonstrated precisely this. Hande, who was initiated into the field during his visit to the Dominican Republic



Harish Hande, MD of SELCO, believes that even the poor can afford the best of technologies

while doing his PhD, believes that while the potential for sustainable energy solutions is immense in India, it requires patience and policies, which are grounded. "These

policies," he said, "need to be drafted by practitioners and not by policy makers." About Bangalore, Hande said, "It is a wonderful city that has many people uniquely connected to social enterprises and the sector of social entrepreneurship. On a lighter note, he added, "The fantastic bus service has helped us reach rural areas much faster." "From energy efficiency, good building regulations in terms of day lighting, rain harvesting, solar for security and safer lighting as well as solar for water heating, Karnataka too has a lot of potential that needs to be tapped," he said. He cited examples of

rural banking in Karnataka that has shown a fantastic means to promote sustainable development through funding. "But, it needs to be scaled up," he said. Sustainable development needs to be taken seriously too. "Sustainable energy is absolutely not taken seriously in India," pointed out Hande. "In the name of development, we are making mockery of poverty alleviation and sustainability." He also emphasised that more youngsters need to come forward to work in and for the rural population. "Policies need to have a bottom-up approach to development and not just top to bottom," he said.