


KSPCB clarifies on plastic units

» The Karnataka State Pollution Control Board recently issued a statement stating it has not given permission to any organisation to manufacture or sell plastic products as they are banned under the Environmental Protection Act of 1986. A notification on this was also issued on March 11, 2016. KSPCB Chairman Lakshman said they had received a complaint that True Green Agencies and Envirogreen Biotech India Pvt Ltd were selling their products.

OBITUARY




**KODIRA M. PONNAPPA** IAS (Retd)  
NA -142, Vijaya Enclave, Billekahalli, Bengaluru.  
Passed away on 14-01-2017  
Funeral on 15-01-2017 at 3 PM  
Wilson Garden Crematorium.  
Mourned by Family Members  
Ph: 94487 97799/ 9148158804

Sad Demise of  
Shri.M.S.Venkateswaran



Born : 12-10-1932 Died : 14-01-2017  
Shri M.S.Venkateswaran hailing Melacheval village, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu passed away peacefully and reached heavenly abode in the morning of **January 14, 2017** - on Pongal / Makara Shankaranthi / Uttararaya.  
Starting his illustrious career in Bhilai Steel Plant (part erstwhile Hindustan Steel Limited (now SAIL), then worked at R&D SAIL (RDSIO), Ranchi before finally joining Metallurgical & Engineering Consultants (MECON), Bangalore.  
He is survived by his wife **Mrs. Lalitha Venkateswaran, two sons V. Ramasubramaniam & V.Chandrashekar and a daughter Sujatha Natarajan.**  
Email: machmjr.iam@gmail.com  
**Deeply mourned by Family & Friends**

OBITUARY



**Brig. L.A.P. (Linus) Kamath**  
Expired January 14, 2017  
Husband of Beryl, Father of Sanjeev- Paul / Anita, Vikram-John / Reena,  
Funeral Mass on  
Tuesday January 17, 2017 at 10am,  
St. Patrick's Church  
Burial at Hosur Road Cemetery

IN LOVING  
MEMORY OF



**TESSIEMOL**  
Born : 30-6-59 Died : 15-1-84  
**33rd Anniversary**  
*We mourn in Silence*  
**E.P. JACOB & FAMILY**  
**WOOD WAYS INDIA**  
Bangalore.  
Tel. : 25586542

# Separate question paper may lead to confusion: teachers

## SSLC valuation likely to be complicated, time-consuming: schools

**Meghana Choukkar**  
**BENGALURU:** The decision of the Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board (KSEEB) to provide the question paper and answer booklet separately in this year's SSLC exam has caused anxiety among high school teachers.

"In a hurry, the students may write the wrong question number against their answers or

forget to write numbers for sub-questions. They may stand to lose marks for such errors," said the headmaster of a private school in Bengaluru. While the system of providing the question paper separately did exist earlier, he said providing a combined booklet was better for Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE). "In the CCE system, students are required to write specific answers. The space provided in the booklet used to be just right.

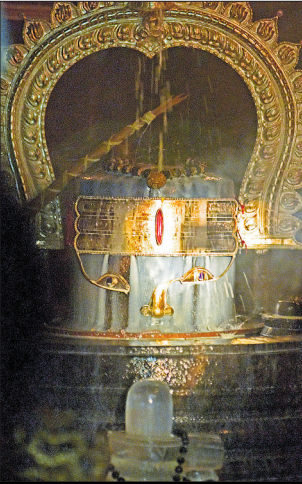
Now they may write long answers, unnecessarily," he added. This may result in students losing precious time, said Shashi Kumar D, general secretary of Associated Managements of Private Unaided English Medium School in Karnataka (KAMS). "There should have been a consultation with teachers and headmasters before the decision was taken. A committee should have been formed to see whether the change had

merit," Kumar said. While announcing the move, KSEEB said students will benefit because they would be able to carry the question paper back with them for reference. Teachers are also worried that it will make the evaluation process complicated and time-consuming. "The student can attempt questions in any order which means the evaluator will have to repeatedly look through the sheets for the matching answer. This may be

time-consuming," said a science teacher from Koppal taluk. Earlier, students could write only one answer for one question in the space provided. With the booklet, students are likely to attempt the same question more than once, making the task of evaluation difficult, he said. A senior official from the Board dismissed the concerns, saying it was a minor change and students will not face problems. **DH News Service**



A cow jumps over fire as part of Makara Sankranti celebrations at a temple in Bengaluru on Saturday. Sun rays fall on the Shivalinga at Gavi Gangadhareshwara temple. Women cook pongal as part of the celebrations. DH PHOTOS



# Prayers, celestial event mark Sankranti

**BENGALURU:** Prayers, cultural and religious programmes marked Makara Sankranti (Pongal) across the city on Saturday. Kere Sankranti celebrations were held at Uttarahalli Lake where a special Rashi Puja was held on the lake. Thanksgiving and puja were offered to the first harvest of crops like groundnuts, rice, sugarcane, sweet potato and double beans. A pipeline was

inaugurated to ensure continuous water to 10,000 trees and plants around the lake. Temples resonated with chants, special prayers and religious activities. Hundreds of devotees thronged Gavi Gangadhareshwara temple at Gavipuram to witness a rare celestial phenomenon where in the sun rays pass through the window and fall on the Shivalinga in the sanctum sanctorum. This happens only

on Sankranti day. The phenomenon lasted for half-an-hour from 4.45 pm and 'abhisheka' was performed to the Shivalinga. Rangoli contests and a 'Sankranti food mela' were also part of the celebrations at various part of the city. At markets, people made a last-minute rush to buy ellu (sesame)-bella (jaggery), sugarcane and sugar candies. Savitha Krishna, a resident

from Banashankari said: "I look forward to celebrating this harvest festival every year. Our family celebrates the festival annually with 'Sankranti' offerings in a plate and exchanges it with other families and neighbours. The plate has ellu-bella mixed with fried groundnuts and neatly cut co-pra. Consuming them on Sankranti is auspicious besides being healthy." **D H News Service**

## Events today

- More Smile on New Year, Pongal celebrations 2017, Kidwai Cancer Hospital, 10 am.
- Makara Sankranti, Festival of Thanksgiving by Kids Fun & Adventurous World, Cubbon Park, 10 am-6 pm.
- Bengaluru Kite Festival 2017 by Rotary Bangalore Lakeside, playground, 19th Main, Sector 2, HSR Layout, Next to Gayatri Temple, 9 am.

# Protest held demanding a safe city for women

**BENGALURU:** Proving that feminism is not only for women, Sangam Iyer, a media person, led a peaceful protest in Freedom Park against molestation of women on the night of December 31. Around a hundred men and women from different backgrounds, dressed in black, gathered in the evening to demand a safer city for women. "After I read about the incidents on New Year's eve, I could not sleep in peace. I wanted to do something about it," Iyer said. To take discussions beyond likes and shares on Facebook, he created an event titled 'Peaceful Protest against Mass Molestation'. The group raised slogans such as 'It's a dress, not a yes' and 'See it, hear it, report it'. Many women described personal experiences of being harassed.

**Online petition**  
Iyer has also started a petition on Change.org addressed to the commissioner of police. The petition makes several recommendations to the police to ensure safety of women and has received more than 1,300 signatures. Increasing patrolling at night in areas with



People stage a protest on Saturday against New Year's Eve molestation. DH PHOTO

heavy footfall consulting women to identify unsafe areas are some of the measures suggested. The petition also recommends that the police run a campaign to educate people on

how to make a report and the course of action available to them. Iyer will submit the recommendations to the commissioner in person next week. **DH News Service**

# Relief for commuters, MEMU rail services to begin tomorrow

**BENGALURU:** In a move that could decongest the city, MEMU (mainline electric multiple unit) rail services are all set to become operational on Monday. Linking the IT hub of Whitefield to the city centre, MEMU services will be a boon to techies. Union Minister for Railways Suresh Prabhu will flag off the train that would ply between Ramanagaram, Krantivira Sangolli Rayanna Railway Station Bengaluru and Kuppam.

**CM tweets**  
Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday tweeted, "GoK will provide 80% of the Rs 360 crore needed to convert 15 trains (passenger trains) into MEMU trains. This is the beginning of suburban rail for Bengaluru." However, in a subsequent tweet, he stated that although the state agreed to provide 80% of the cost to kick-start the suburban railway, he requested the Centre to agree to a 50:50 sharing model. Besides introduction of MEMUs, several other railway works were in the pipeline, Divisional Railway

## Timings

Train No	From	Departure	To	Arrival
66535	KSR Bengaluru	5.30	Ramanagaram	6.35
66536	Ramanagaram	6.50	KSR Bengaluru	8.40
66537	KSR Bengaluru	17.25	Ramanagaram	18.30
66538	Ramanagaram	18.40	KSR Bengaluru	19.45
66539	KSR Bengaluru	19.55	Ramanagaram	21.00
66540	Ramanagaram	21.55	KSR Bengaluru	23.00
66542	KSR Bengaluru	8.45	Whitefield	9.40
66541	Whitefield	10.30	KSR Bengaluru	11.10
66544	KSR Bengaluru	11.20	Kuppam	13.45
99543	Kuppam	14.45	KSR Bengaluru	17.20

Manager, Bengaluru Division, Sanjiv Agarwal, said, "The 'Chuku Buku Railu Beku' awareness campaign demanding commuter rail service for the city last year saw the participation of thousands of Bengaluru residents. The Bengaluru-Pune doubling work would be completed in four years, according to Railway officials. Work is in the final stages on the Mysuru-Bengaluru double line. With just 1.5 km left to be doubled, the stretch would be ready by March. Work on the Hassan-Bengaluru stretch is in the final stages of completion. Trains

# Guest lecturers say they didn't get pay for eight months

**BENGALURU:** The Karnataka State Government First Grade Colleges Guest Lecturers' Association will have a meeting next week, following which a decision will be taken on their further course of action to get their grievances redressed. The association has been repeatedly approaching the government with their issues, but to no avail. B Rajashekaramurthy, president of the association, said over the last eight months, none of the guest lecturers has got salary and that they had to resort to other part time jobs to make ends meet. "Most of us have families. We are not able to depend on this income. Some of us take private tutorials and some others serve as security guards," he added. Rajashekaramurthy said the problem persisted for several years now. "We have submitted several memorandums to the government. We have gone on strike. Yet the government seems to be deaf to our concerns,"

Rajashekaramurthy said in all, there were 451 govt first grade colleges where 14,650 guest lecturers were employed. Of these, 6,000 were women. He said they had received no pay hike. "For the past 10 years, the government is paying guest lecturers only between Rs 10,000 and Rs 12,000 a month. Even this is not paid regularly. We get our pay only once in six months," Rajashekaramurthy said. The association has demanded that their pay be increased to Rs 25,000. Job security is yet another concern for many. "Most of us have served for over a decade. Why does the government have to make fresh recruitments? It can give us permanent jobs instead," he said, adding that they had better experience. The association will hold a state-level meeting on January 18, following which they will take a decision on approaching the chief minister. **DH News Service**

# Now 'Tiki Tar' sheet roads at HBR Layout

**BENGALURU:** The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike is re-laying roads with 'Tiki Tar' sheets at HBR Layout at a cost of Rs 1.14 crore. The Palike had, for the first time, successfully laid these sheets on the Richmond Circle flyover recently. The Palike decided to opt for the tar sheet asphalt technology in a bid to make the road surface more durable and weather-proof. Under the new technology, asphalt work is carried out by laying 'Tiki Tar' sheets that are water-bound bituminous emulsions. These sheets come in rolls, packed in drums. These brown sheets become black six hours after they are laid. Once the colour changes, a primer and bitumen con-

crete are poured on them. The sheets are manufactured by Mumbai-based Tiki Tar Industries. BBMP executive engineer, Traffic Engineering Cell (TEC) C S Umashankar said that at present, around 570 metres of the stretch from BDA Complex, HBR Layout 2nd Block to the corner of Tannery Road will be laid with tar sheets. "We have already covered a few metres of the stretch," he said. **Upgrade of flyovers**  
Palike officials said that other flyovers too would be upgraded with tar sheets soon and they are in the process of identifying prominent flyovers across the city. **DH News Service**

# Man run over at Majestic bus stand

**BENGALURU:** In a hit-and-run case, a 25-year-old engineer was run over by a bus near the entrance of Terminal 3 of Kempegowda bus stand on Saturday. The deceased is Srinivas Rao, a native of Hindupur, who was living in CV Raman Nagar. He was working as a contract engineer for a Central government establishment, said the police. Around 6.50 am, Rao was waiting to board an Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (APSRTC) bus to go to Hindupur. As the bus arrived, passengers rushed towards the bus. Rao, who was also trying to board the bus through the front door, lost balance and fell down. The driver moved the vehicle and Rao fell under the front wheel of the bus and was run over, added the police. The passengers raised an alarm and the driver stopped the bus. The public informed a traffic police constable, who alerted the Upparpet traffic police and shifted Rao to a nearby hospital, where he was declared brought dead. The driver of the bus fled with the vehicle. APSRTC officials in Hindupur were informed and have asked the driver to surrender.

## Mass prayer



A large number of people gather at the car festival of the Infant Jesus Church at Viveknagar in the city on Saturday. DH PHOTO

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