



Actor Darshan's (inset) house at Rajarajeshwarinagar.

Darshan's house, Shamanur hospital built on SWD: report

BENGALURU, DHNS: Actor Darshan's house and Shamanur Shivashankarappa Hospital in Rajarajeshwarinagar have been built on stormwater drains, reveals a report prepared by the joint director of Land Records Jayaprakash.

The September 8 report, submitted to BMP commissioner N Manjunatha Prasad, says the survey was carried out in Halagevaderahalli village in Rajarajeshwarinagar following a letter by the BBMP joint commissioner of Rajarajeshwarinagar zone in August to verify whether there was any encroachment of stormwater drains, especially by actor Darshan in Ideal Homes Layout, and SS Hospital. "There is an encroachment of seven acres and 31 guntas. It is based on the revenue records," said the JDLR. The report is substantiated by the village map as well as the latest survey sketch.

Pressure was mounting on the BBMP to verify whether there was any encroachment by Ideal Homes and SS Hospital following flash floods in the region during heavy rains one-and-half months ago.

Demolition drive: CM promises flats for affected

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) is yet to get written orders on allotting its flats on a priority basis to those who lost their houses in the recent demolition by the BBMP.

On Wednesday, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah reiterated that those who lost their homes during the demolition drive to clear encroachment of stormwater drains would get flats. An official in the BDA said that they are unaware of the chief minister's decision. "We are yet to receive the government order to allot flats to those who lost their homes. No written directions have come to us. There are sufficient flats with us. But no flats in Kempegowda Layout or homes in the upcoming villas will be given," the official asserted.

During the demolition drive, the BBMP has claimed to have razed 220 encroachments and is preparing to raze 900 more. These include homes and commercial establishments and recovery of sites. The drive is likely to commence in the next few days.

Lokayukta proceedings against 2 officials quashed

BENGALURU, DHNS: The High Court on Wednesday quashed Lokayukta proceedings against Usha R Patwari, joint director and M Muniraju, assistant director, Department of Women and Child Development.

The petitioners are accused of favouring Christie Fried Grams Industries in supplying grains to anganwadis and amassed wealth disproportionate to their known sources of income. Justice Anand-Byrareddy quashed the Lokayukta proceedings on the ground that investigation into the allegation of corruption was conducted without filing an FIR. The Lokayukta police had searched petitioner's houses in 2012. The judge said that search and seizure was illegal and subsequently filing and FIR was bad in law.

Metro ride from Nagasandra to Puttenahalli only in April

Civil work to be over by January 2017, says chief minister

BENGALURU: It's now official. The Metro ride from Nagasandra to Puttenahalli will happen only by April next year.

Putting an end to speculation, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday said that the entire Metro phase-I will be commissioned by April 2017. Earlier, it was promised to be operational by November 1 this year to coincide with Rajyotsava Day. The chief minister, who held a review meeting of Metro rail projects, attributed the delay to the slow-progressing underground tunnel work.

He said that there had been

a "substantial delay" in completing the work. "In the 42-km phase I network, the Metro is not operational on a 11-km stretch, including a 4-km underground line. Work related to tunnelling near Majestic (15 metres), track-laying and signalling is pending. I have directed BMRC officials to prepare a timeline for the completion of each work. The civil work is expected to be completed by January 2017 and the entire stretch will be commissioned by April next year," he said.

On connecting the Sampige Road (Malleswaram) and the Majestic Metro stations before April, the chief minister said,

"The entire network will be thrown open together." Nearly 1.8 lakh passengers are using the existing 33-km Metro services every day. It will benefit at least 5 lakh commuters once the entire network is ready, he said. On phase-II of the project, Siddaramaiah said civil work on the Baiyappanahalli-Whitefield and RV Road-Bommasandra lines would start soon. "The Agence Francaise de Developpement, which granted sovereign loan for phase II, is scrutinising the tender documents. The BMRC will float tenders to take up construction work by the end of this month," he said.

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Metro on Outer Ring Road

Also, the Outer Ring Road (ORR) will have a Metro rail line and not the proposed Bus Rapid Transport System (BRTS), Siddaramaiah said. The chief minister said that the government has approved the Metro line between KR Puram and Central Silk Board on the ORR, with an aim to complete the project in two years. "The government will mobilise resources by leasing out land acquired by BMRC and through the innovating financing model, which includes premium Floor Area Ratio (FAR), betterment levy, naming rights/advertisement, premium accessways/ramps, airspace commercialisation and additional cess on approval of new projects/developments. Consisting of 13 elevated stations, this 18-km Metro line is expected to cost Rs 3,600 crore," he said. Siddaramaiah said that the BMRC will prepare a detailed project report (DPR) by December this year and execute the work in two years. "We will take up Metro project on ORR under phase II (B). Ten lakh people commute on this stretch daily," he said.

Now, suggest a Namma Metro route to the airport

BENGALURU: For the first time, citizens can have a say in deciding the most convenient Namma Metro route to the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA).

Making this possible, the state government uploaded as many as nine alternative routes on the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (BMRC) website <http://www.bmrc.co.in/>

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday said: RITES (a multi-disciplinary consultancy in the fields of transport, infrastructure) has suggested nine best extensions to the airport from the existing and proposed Metro lines. People have been given a month's time to suggest the best route," he said and added that a final decision would be taken later.

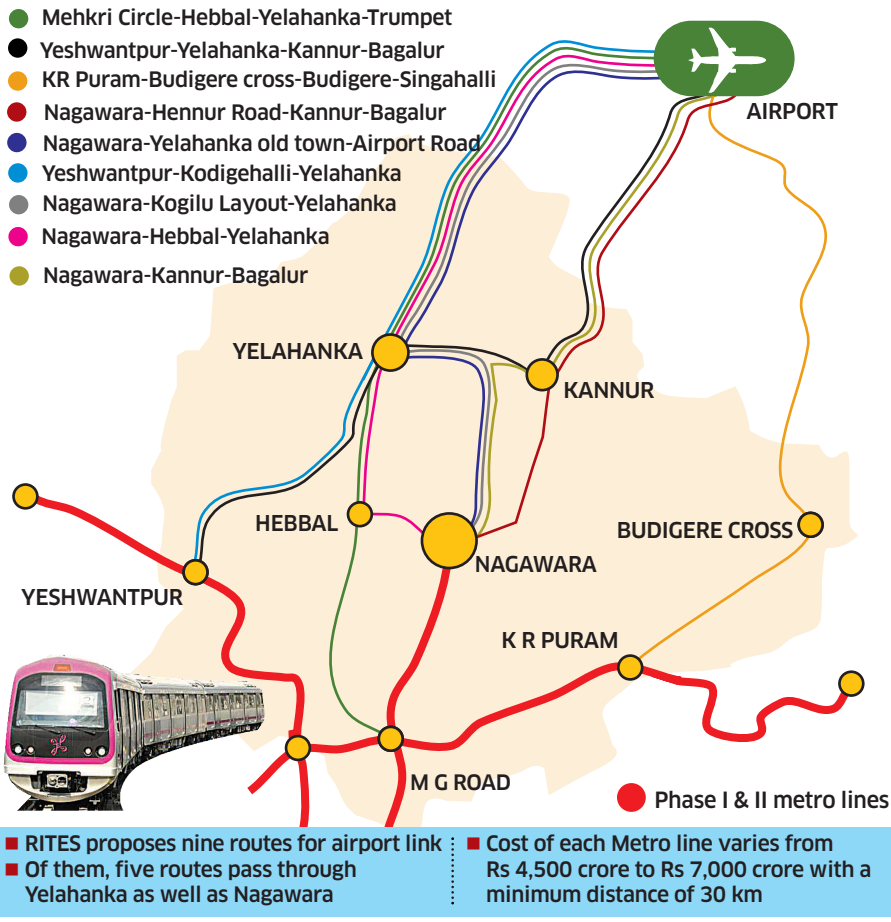
For long, there was no clarity on the Metro connectivity to airport. In August this year, Siddaramaiah had announced connecting the airport from Nagawara. This project, however, is dependent on the com-

pletion of Metro Phase II network. At the moment, flight users can come to the city only via road as the proposed High Speed Rail Link has remained only on paper.

Each of the nine proposed routes with an average distance of 30 km is expected to cost from Rs 4,500 crore to 7,000 crore. The government did not specify whether the Metro project to the airport would be taken up under Phase II (B) along with Metro on Outer Ring Road (ORR) or Phase III. BMRC, which has failed to complete Metro Phase I project on time, has a major challenge to executive the 72-km long Phase II project that is still in the initial stage.

Feedback to BMRC

Go to BMRC's official website (<http://www.bmrc.co.in/>) and click on the yellow scroll. You can view alternative routes for airport link and proposed ORR Metro alignment. Email your feedback to bmrcld@dataone.in.



In sync



Women perform Kaikottikali, a traditional dance form as part of Thiruvonam celebrations, at Kasturinagar in the city on Wednesday. DH PHOTO

Coming alive on stage

An intriguing story about a scientist

Meghana Choukkar

BENGALURU: A play on the life of a scientist. If this statement has not captured your interest, you will miss out on an exciting tale of ambition, betrayal and a complicated friendship between two great astrophysicists of modern times.

Written by Nilanjan Choudhury and directed by Prakash Belawadi, "The Square Root of a Sonnet", is about the life of "little known" astrophysicist, Subramanyan Chandrasekhar.

Chandrasekhar, the nephew of Nobel laureate C V Raman, was 19 and on a ship from Bombay to Cambridge when he formulated the equations that led to the discovery of black holes. But his own mentor, Sir Arthur Edding-



A scene from the play *The Square Root of a Sonnet*.

ton, did all he could to suppress the young scientist's work, resulting in a Nobel Prize awarded over 50 years late in 1983.

What was the motive behind his betrayal? Presented by Centre for Film and Drama, the play is an attempt to understand this. The four

characters – Chandrasekhar (Choudhury), his wife (Spoonthi Gumaste), Eddington (Sal Yusuf), and his sister (Teju Belawadi) are all dead and are reflecting on their lives, trying to find some answers. After being in the pipeline for long, the play will open in Ranga Shankara on Thursday, on the

occasion of Engineer's Day. Physics being his first love and having studied the subject in IIT-Kanpur, Choudhury reads extensively on these topics. A book he read about the relationship between the two scientists, titled 'Empire of the Stars' by Arthur I Miller inspired him to write the play. "Movies and plays on science-related themes are very few in our country. There are movies in the West about Indian scientists but very few productions by Indians on Indians. I wanted to do my bit to address the gap," Choudhury said. He chose to tell the story of this unsung hero, who is largely unknown in his own country, despite having made the discovery which paved the way for the work of other scientists like Stephen Hawking and Roger Penrose.

Months of research went into the script, on the history of events and on the scientific theories which are the focus of the play. "Since he lived in USA, there was a lot of information available in the form of interviews and media articles."

To make sure that the play interests a layperson, Choudhury got some of his friends to read the script. "They were fascinated to read about the way nature behaves and that is the purpose of my play. The idea is to get people to understand the beauty of science, which is unfortunately taught in a very dry manner in our schools," he added.

Several research institutes have shown interest in having the play performed on their premises.

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HC stays FIR against NPS

BENGALURU, DHNS: The High Court on Wednesday granted a stay on the FIR filed against National Public School (NPS) represented by Citizens Education Society, National Education Trust and National Academy for Learning Trust.

Justice Anand Byrareddy also granted stay on the disaffiliation order issued by the Central Board for Secondary Education (CBSE).

NPS was accused of forging the signature of the chairperson of National Commission for Minority Educational Institutions to claim linguistic minority status in order to get exemption from admitting students under the Right to Education Act. NPS approached the High Court contending that the 'forged' certificate was never the basis to claim linguistic minority status.

They also said that the police do not have the locus standi to file an FIR against the school.

Mayor, dy Mayor elections on Sept 28

BJP, JD(S) oppose addition of new Cong voters to electoral list

BENGALURU, DHNS: Elections to the post of Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be held on September 28.

K R Pallavi, BBMP council secretary, who met regional commissioner and presiding officer of the mayoral polls M V Jayanthi on Wednesday, told DH that the revised calendar of events had been prepared. A notification in this regard will be issued on Thursday. Earlier, the election was scheduled for September 19.

Meanwhile, the BJP has objected to the addition of two more Congress MLCS to the electoral list. Congress members M D Lakshminarayana and A Ravi were added to the list. Both the BJP and the JD(S) have decided to stage a protest against the move in front of the BBMP office on Thursday.

The BJP has filed a criminal complaint in City Metropolitan Magistrate Court against including the two MLCS in the electoral list. The BJP has said that the new voters added to the list already have voting rights in other parts of the state. The complaint said that, to increase the number of its voters, the Congress has got Rajya Sabha members like Jairam Ramesh, Oscar Fernandes and MLCS like Ramappa Timmapur, N S Boseraju included in the electoral list.

With the new additions, the total number of voters in the mayoral polls has risen to 269, including 197 corporators. The magic number to rule the BBMP is 135. Presently, the BJP has 127 voters. The BJP is trying hard to seek the support of the JD(S), which has 23 members, to wrest the Palike. The Congress, in addition to seeking the support of the JD(S), requires the backing of independents to continue in power. This time, the Mayor's post has been reserved for backward category 'B' (woman).

Mayoral electorate

VOTERS	BJP	CONGRESS	JD-S	INDEPENDENTS
Corporators	100	76	14	7
MLCS	8	15	5	0
MLAs	12	13	3	0
RS members	3	6	1	1
LS members	3	2	0	0
Total	126	112	23	8

Give us mayor's post to get our support, JD(S) tells parties

BENGALURU, DHNS: JD(S) state president H D Kumaraswamy on Wednesday said that his party would support that party which would assure JD(S) the mayoral post in the BBMP council.

Speaking to reporters in Bengaluru, Kumaraswamy reiterated that his party had been let down by the ruling Congress, especially when it came to taking decisions during the demolition drive in the city.

He said that the government had selectively razed down structures, not laying a finger on structures owned by influential persons. He wondered why the government had not cleared encroachments by actor Darshan, former minister Shamanur Shivashankarappa, and the Orion Mall. "Where are the Mayor and the BBMP Commissioner now? They selectively razed down 140 houses - why haven't they continued the drive? Moreover, we (JDS) are partners in the BBMP council. The government did not bother to consult us when the decision to initiate the demolition drive was taken," he said.

He said his party was yet to take a decision on which party (the Congress or the BJP) to support in the upcoming Mayoral polls, as it was currently focused on the Cauvery issue.

He also added that it was ironic that Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, by convening a meeting of the City MLAs on

Will not yield to JD(S) tactics: CM

Sources in the Congress said Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had told the party legislators that he will not yield to arm-twisting tactics by the JD(S) on continuing a tie-up between the two parties in the coming elections to the Bengaluru city mayor. The Congress is for continuing the tie-up with the JD(S) in the BBMP council in the interest of Bengaluru. But the party will not agree if the JD(S) will come up with unreasonable demands. Agreement reached by the two parties last year should be continued. Or else, the Congress is ready to sit in the opposition benches (in the BBMP council), Siddaramaiah is learnt to have said. The Congress had given away the post of deputy mayor and chairmen of two of the BBMP standing committees to the JD(S) last year. This year, the JD(S) has kept the Congress on tenterhooks by not revealing whether it would continue its support or not in the BBMP.

Wednesday, had made Mayoral polls "top priority", instead of finding solutions to the Cauvery issue.

In city today

GENERAL
PES Polytechnic: Guest lecture on "Concept of magnetic fields, force and Faraday's law" by Assistant Professor Melisa Miranda, PES Polytechnic, Hanumanthnagar, 9 am.

PES Polytechnic: Guest lecture on "Gauge design" by Prof V Srinivasan, PES Polytechnic, Hanumanthnagar, 9 am.

PES Polytechnic: Guest lecture on "Introduction to workshop technology" by Dr N Rajesh Mathivanan, PES Polytechnic, Hanumanthnagar, 3 pm.

PES Polytechnic: Guest lecture on "Concept of machine design" by Dr C V Chandrashekar, PES Polytechnic, Hanumanthnagar, 3 am.

Nature Care: A talk on natural treatment of diseases by Dr Nanjesh Koppa, Regency Institute of Sports and Culture, near Rajeha Apartments, Agrahara Dasarahalli, Magadi Main Road, 10.35 am.

Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry: Presentation of Sir M Visvesvaraya Memorial Award - 2016 to Dr M K Panduranga Setty, president of Rashtriya Shiksha Samithi by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Taj West End, 5 pm.

Centre for Science and Environment and BBMP: Release and discussion of report on CSEs study of solid waste management in cities titled "Not in my backyard," BBMP Commissioner N Manjunath Prasad to attend, IPP Centre, 16th Cross, Vyalikaval, Malleswaram, 10 am.

CULTURAL
Rashtrakavi Kuvempu Vichara

Vedike: Reading of Kuvempu's "Sri Ramayana Darshanam," Auditorium, Kannada Yuvajana Sangha, Hombegowda Nagar, 6.30 pm.

RELIGIOUS
Nanjanagud Sri Raghavendra Swamy Mutt: "Bhakti Prahlada Harikathe" by Sharvari Somaya, Nanjanagud Sri Raghavendra Swamy Mutt, 11th Main, 45th Cross, 5th Block, Jayanagar.

Uttaradi Mutt: Discourse on "Prostapadhi Srimal Bhagavatha" by Pandit Srimukundi Sreekanthachar, Sri Digvijaya Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Sannidhana, Mutt premises, 6.30 pm.

City weather

FORECAST: Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or showers.

TEMPERATURES	
Maximum	28.6 C
Minimum	20.4 C
Rainfall	Nil
Humidity	64 pc
Sunrise	6.09 am
Sunset	6.20 pm
Moonrise	5.17 pm
Moonset	4.30 am
(Relevant data recorded at 5.30 pm. Source: IMD)	