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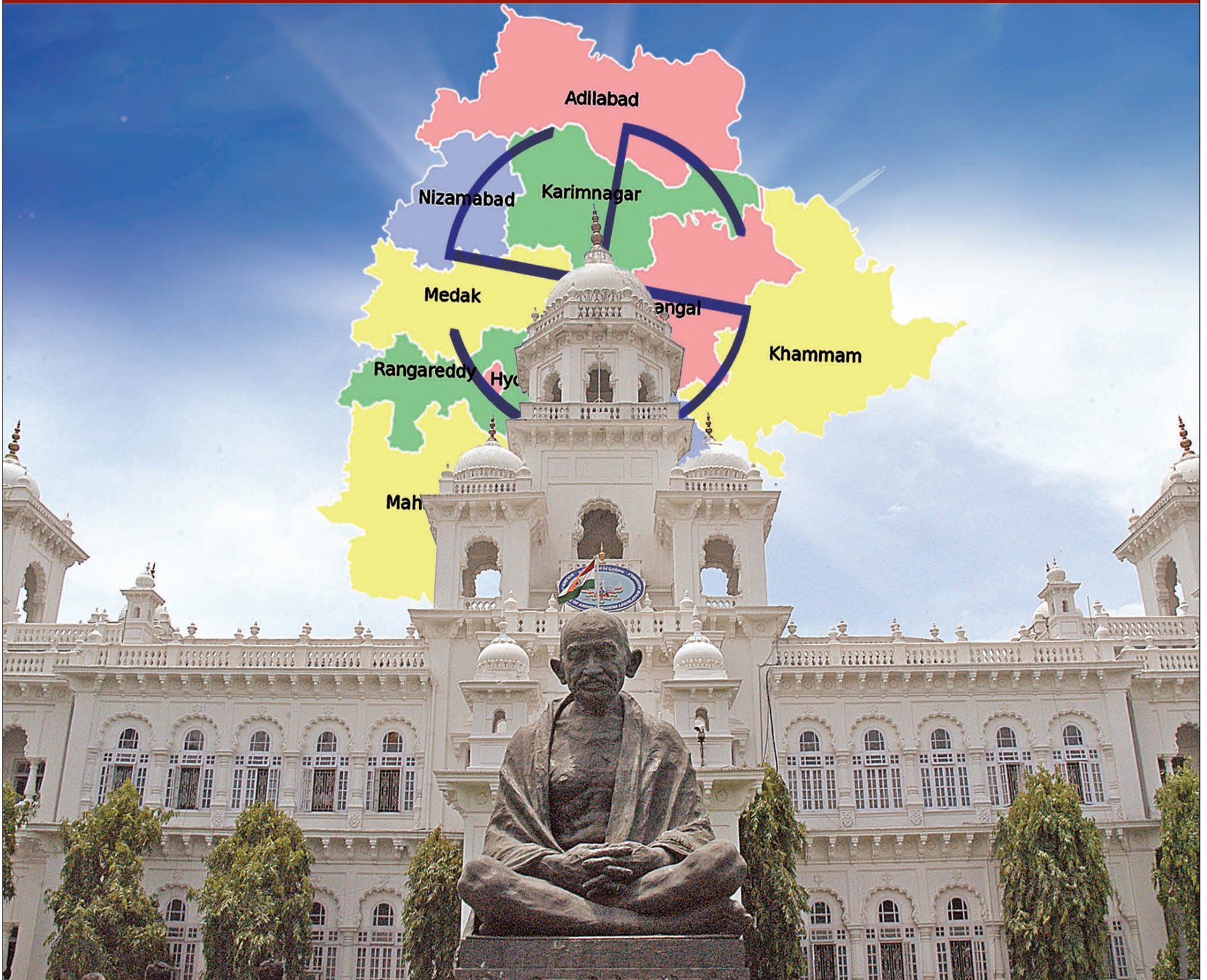
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T-Bill all set to Boom?



A crucial week ahead for T!

By Our Political Correspondent

The Andhra Pradesh State Legislative Assembly that was abruptly adjourned on 18th December is scheduled to meet once again on 3rd January, 2014 to discuss the contentious Andhra Pradesh State Re-organization Bill 2013, well known as 'Telangana Bill' (T-Bill) was referred by the President of India on 12th December for its views. The T-bill envisaged towards formation of Telangana after bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh State was introduced in the state assembly on 13th of December amidst uproar and scenes of chaos leading to several adjournments. Despite the house convening on 16th, 17th and 18th December, it could not transact any business. The Speaker who was keen to get the House debate the T-Bill failed in his repeated attempts to pacify the Seemandhra legislators who were bent on obstructing any discussion or debate over the bill.

With Andhra and Seema MLAs belonging to parties like YSRCP and TDP determined to stall any debate over the state bifurcation bill; it is learnt that the Congress High Command is equally concerned to ensure a proper debate takes place over the T-bill. While the numerical figures are grossly loaded in favour of a Seemandhra majority having about 175 out of 294; entire Telangana has a representation of only 119 MLAs out of the said 294. It appears the congress central leadership is keen on convincing its hardcore loyalists amongst the Seemandhra MLAs to abide by the party line. Can Congress manage to convert about 50 of its MLAs in the Seemandhra to work tacitly in support of the T-bill?

Is an unexpected miracle going to happen in the Assembly as it meets for 16 days to discuss Andhra Pradesh State Reorganisation Bill 2013, from January 3rd, 2014? If as many as 50 Congress MLAs from Seemandhra region are going to support the T-Bill, making it possible to pass it with hands down majority; it could be a tremendous boost for the congress in both the regions of Telangana and residuary State of Andhra Pradesh, especially in Seemandhra as the congress high command is very keen on providing unbelievable package to the Seemandhra State soon after the T-bill debate is com-



pleted and presented in the Parliament for its passing the enactment.

All the talk of the Bill getting defeated on the floor of the State Assembly is based on the wishful imagination of some Seemandhra leaders who want to build their political future after the bifurcation of the state. Chief Minister Kiran Kumar Reddy and some ministers like TG Venkatesh are among this category. Even some TDP

leaders like Yanamala Ramakrishnu, who is the leader of the Opposition in the legislative Council, are demanding voting on clauses trusting these Congress leaders.

Unfolding Situation:

In fact, the unfolding situation is different from what is visible outside. This is the backdrop against which Pradesh Congress Committee president and Minister Botsa Satyanarayana on Friday revealed before the media that around 30 to 40 MLAs including some ministers are likely to quit the party very soon. Botsa also stated that the Congress has even identified these (black sheep) leaders a long time ago and is keen on exposing them at an appropriate time.

The real meaning of this statement is simple – that at best only 40 MLAs out of its 90 MLAs from Seemandhra region are going to defy the dictates of the Congress high command on Telangana issue. That shows that atleast 50 Congress MLAs from Seemandhra are going to endorse the division of the state on the floor of the state assembly when the T-bill is put to discussion.

Botsa made this statement as part of a clever strategy to play mind games with the defiant Seemandhra MLAs who all along were known to be conspiring to join hands with YSR Congress or TDP to defeat the Telangana bill. Already, Chief Minister Kiran Kumar Reddy is known to have appointed a team of ministers and MLAs to liaison with other parties to defeat the T-bill in the Assembly as if some form of voting takes place.

However, some Seemandhra ministers who have been hardcore loyalists of the party high command including Botsa, Kanna Lakshimarayana, P Balaraju, Dokka Manikya Varaprasad, Raghuvveera Reddy, Anam Ramnarayana Reddy, Kondru Muralimohan and Galla Aruna etc are known to have made up their mind to back the state bifurcation. These ministers have been maintaining distance from the chief minister's camp for some time.

These ministers alongwith some union ministers like Kishore Chandra Deo, Kavuri Sambasiva Rao, Kotla



Suryaprakash Reddy, Panabaka Lakshmi, Killi Kripa Rani, JD Seelam and D Purandeswari are of the view that it is too late to block the division of the state and that it is more beneficial to the Seemandhra region, if bifurcation takes place. Even union ministers MM Pallam Raju and Chiranjeevi too belong to this category but scared of revealing.

These ministers are afraid of expressing openly at this stage because of the pressure tactics used by certain Seemandhra lobbies like Andhra Pradesh Non-Gazetted Officers (APNGOs) Union and other scores of united AP platforms. These united AP outfits are aided and propped up by some economically strong Congress leaders and contractors like Lagadapati Rajagopal and Rayapati Sambasiva Rao. Sources reveal that Kiran Reddy has pumped a lot of money into sponsoring the Seemandhra movement as it enables him to continue in office till the last moment.

Contrary to the claims of these vocal groups, there is almost no agitation in Seemandhra currently when the President has referred the Telangana bill to the consideration of the Assembly. If really there is strong opposition among the general public, they should have gone on a massive agitation since December 12th, when the T-bill was referred to the state legislature.

But, nothing of that sort has happened. If there was really, genuine resistance to the division of the state even among the majority of the employees of the APNGOs, they would have gone on a flash strike as repeatedly threatened by their present president



P Ashok Babu sometime back. A helpless Ashok Babu tried to start a fresh strike since December 12th when the bill came to the Assembly. But there were no takers at all.

Actually, a majority of the APNGOs are reluctant to go on a strike for a second

time over the same issue of opposing Telangana State formation. Moreover, now efforts are underway to remove the said APNGOs leader Ashok Babu from the post of president of APNGOs in the elections scheduled on 3rd January, early next year.

The present prevailing mood among the APNGOs appears to be dead against Ashok Babu as many are said to be feeling let down by his suspected understanding with the close associates of the chief minister and his political ambitions.

A Thank You from the bottom of Our hearts!!

We take great pleasure in welcoming the decision of our union government for beginning the constitutional process for formation of Telangana State. We indeed feel gratified as the cabinet note on Telangana was unanimously approved by the Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh and his esteemed cabinet colleagues. Although there is a prescribed constitutional procedure that is required to be followed as envisaged, we have full faith in the commitment of Shrimathi Sonia Gandhi as well as the UPA government that everything needed shall be done in due course.

We celebrated the decision of the Congress Working Committee when it officially declared its stand to grant statehood to Telangana. Despite several Satanic forces making attempts to stall the process of Telangana State, we never doubted the integrity of Sonia Ji. Today, we feel vindicated for our patience and perseverance. We feel reassured that truth and justice will ultimately prevail.

The achievement we celebrate today is but a step, an opening of opportunity, to the greater opportunities and achievements that await us. Yes indeed we are brave enough and wise enough to grasp this opportunity and humbly accept the challenges of the future.

We shall indeed wait for the appointed day to come - the day appointed by destiny - when India which is a Union of States now readying to give birth to yet another new State--- the State of Telangana !!! It is going to be the 29th State of the Indian Republic. The people of Telangana would forever remain grateful for the judicious acknowledgement of their decades long struggle for safeguarding their identity, self respect and right of self rule as envisaged in the federal scheme of our great Constitution. Telangana is situated in the heart of the Deccan that connects the Hindi belt of the North and the Dravidan territory of the South.

It is a fateful moment for us in Telangana, and for the rest of our fellow brothers and sisters in India who are taking part in making a dream come true for us. A new star will arise, the star of self respect in the Deccan, a new hope comes into being, a vision long cherished waiting to materialize. May the star never set and our hope never be betrayed! Thank you for not letting us down.



Telangana Constitutional Rights Protection Forum

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No real leader of the employees who led a mass movement ever faced such accusations.

This shows that Ashok Babu doesn't enjoy the confidence of a huge section of APNGOs who are least bothered about the division of the state. It clearly shows that, only those sections of Seemandhra people who have vested interests in Hyderabad city and its surrounding areas are behind their campaign to stall the formation of Telangana, which is a legitimate demand of four crore people of the region.

Hefty package to benefit Seemandhra:

Going by the movements beneath the surface, a majority of legislators from Seemandhra are not averse to the state division as it would be a boon to their region in the long run. The reason for this is the hefty economic



and administrative package that is going to be unveiled for Seemandhra, once the T-bill comes before the Parliament.

UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi is learnt to have directed all the ministries at the Centre to come up with proposals to make the residuary state of Andhra Pradesh that is Seemandhra, strong and vibrant in all aspects. An IIT, an IIM, an All India Institute of Medical Sciences like institution, a Central university and a Central research institute and an agricultural research institute and a Tribal university are said to be the part of the educational package. While Polavaram project is all set to get national project status with time bound completion; the students and farming community have everything to rejoice bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh.

If these sops are announced during the debate on the

bill in Parliament, almost all parties MPs are likely to support the bill with a thundering applause. Botsa and other high command loyalists are leaking these details to the Seemandhra legislators to educate about the unprecedented package and turn them to their side and back the Telangana bill. As of now, their response is positive to division of the state. Their number are said to be growing day by day. Many who till now were seen in the company of Kiran Reddy are dumping him to continue with the congress party and reap rich electoral advantage. Obviously, the YSRCP is a worried lot.

YSR Congress headed by YS Jaganmohan Reddy although determined to stall the proceedings of the Assembly from January 3rd are deeply worried about Kiran Reddy failing to rally support. The situation in the TDP is very chaotic. Chandra Babu Naidu is very confused and seems to be going through a nightmare. Sources reveal he is desperate to appease TDP MLAs in both regions to stay with TDP. However, some Seemandhra TDP MLAs are keen to oppose the T-bill along with YSRCP. If they stall the debate, there will be backlash from Telangana MLAs belonging to different parties and the Speaker will have no other go but to evict them from the House. Moreover, Seemandhra people will be deprived of their legitimate right to demand their needs in view of the imminent bifurcation. Just disrupting the Assembly would amount to a cheap gimmick that reflects an unhealthy parliamentary practice.

There is every possibility of Seemandhra people opining that those who disrupt the Telangana debate in the Assembly are actually depriving them of an opportunity to get whatever is due to them from the Centre. Disruption of the Assembly can do two-fold harm to them: First, the T-bill will be passed no matter what the assembly does till 23rd January; two, they cannot bargain for a bigger economic package by resorting to unwarranted confrontation with the central government.

As President Pranab Mukherjee who has come to Hyderabad to spend time in his Southern sojourn; it may be recalled how he dropped several hints that it is too late to stop Telangana state formation process. It is also expected that many MLAs from other parties like TDP may fall in line and help pass the bill, so that they can fight for a better deal to their region. In the end, the Telangana bill may not face as much resistance from Seemandhra MLAs in the Assembly as is being made out. Let's see what's in store this week. ♦

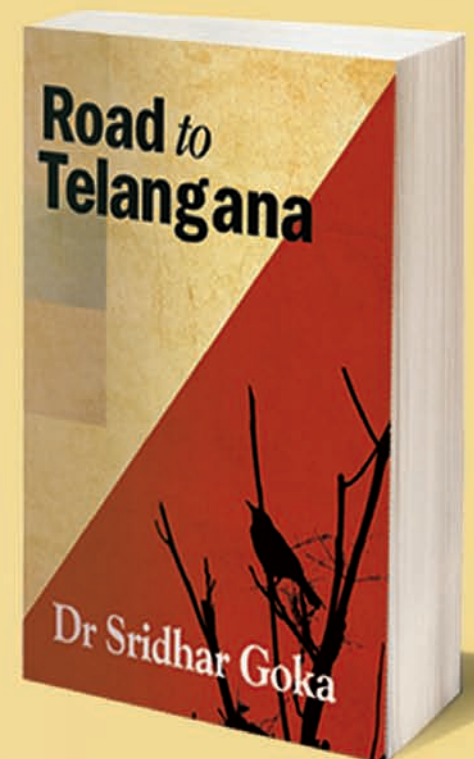
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Road to Telangana

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Police bosses act silent spectators amidst blackmailing by men from RK News

By Shivkant Bichkunda

Although, media is respected and considered as the fourth pillar of our democracy; some unscrupulous elements however found a means to indulge in grave irregularities in the name of freedom of speech and expression. It has been the privilege and responsibility of several newspapers and TV channels to act as the watchdogs of our society and our uncontrolled media has always been applauded for its role in our democratic system for exposing shady things and highlighting the contribution of relevant individuals and organizations.

But sadly, some sections of the media have taken the avatar of saviors and like sheep in wolf's cloth turned into hard core blackmailers indulging in notoriously targeting gullible people, professionals, and organizations by harassing them endlessly with a motive of extorting huge amounts from them. In a recent incident that has come to light, a Telugu news channel which is not known much in our state is resorting to blackmailing by broadcasting the promos manufactured just to damage the reputation of some people, with an agenda to extort huge sums of money from them as a quid pro quo deal from stopping broadcasting stories pertaining to these celebrities.

Many victims like Ram Gopal Varma, a Numerologist, B.M. Sharma, Srikanth, Dr. Uttam Kumar, Dandiya organizers etc. are known to have experienced a great deal of suffering at the hands of these blackmailers. The latest one is one Mr Penchalaiah who runs his institution in the name of Adi Shankaracharya Institutions in Nellore District who had some

dispute about land and applied for regularization to the government.

The group of persons namely Vajpayee, Nagendra, Riyaz and Gopi Krishna who claim to be the stake holders of RK News channel are said to be allegedly collected huge sums of money by extortion from different companies, organizations and reputed persons which went unreported till today.

This Crime Correspondent has got the CD in which it is clearly evident that one representative of RK News channel --Vinod Kumar and Lakshmi Prasad (who is said to be the Vijayawada In-charge of RK News) were trying to harass Kolar Gold company representatives by demanding huge sum of rupees 25 lakhs to stop broadcasting some news about them in their channel. The modus operandi of the channel is that they flash a promo of gullible people or organization and calls them that a promo is aired on RK News and asks them to come down to their office which is located in Uppal, Hyderabad and there they are known to issue threats and frighten the people and settle the deal for cash and the promos vanish away and when the target denies to pay the ransom then they broadcast the false and fabricated stories on their channel continuously for weeks together.

It is pertinent to mention here that one representative of RK News channel whose mobile no is 9985043888 has recently called a journalist namely Mahesh Upadhyay and threatened him that a news scrolling is aired on their news channel which is derogatory in nature and meant only for blackmailing him

by tarnishing his image by falsely commenting that he is a fake journalist who is indulging in illegal settlements and collecting huge sums from the public and the whole incident is video graphed by their camera person. If the said material in the form of a news story has to be stopped from being aired, then he has to meet the RK News boss and settle the issue thereby. Despite the fervent pleas of the said journalist, the concerned police refused to act.

It is being heard that a former Camp Clerk of Hyderabad Police Commissioner Of-



the kingpins behind the blackmailing scams of RK News channel. It is also revealed by reliable sources in the DGP's office as well as Hyderabad Police Commissionerate office that few people claiming to be journalists are indulging in settlements and making huge sums by extorting and harassing the victims and planning for expanding their base with the closeness of the top brass police officials and loot the common man. On the other hand even after receiving complaints from several victims of the RK News Channel, the concerned police officials seem to be in no mood to take stern action against those who are said to be indulging in blackmailing in the guise of journalists.

It is pertinent to mention here that the administration takes swift action when matters relating to men in power are exposed by the responsible sections of the media. The Zee news media people were behind the bars for long and recently got out on bail just for exposing a powerful corporate group. It appears that the police waste no time in getting into action and when the victim of alleged witch hunting happens to be a VVIP. But when a common man is faced with similar suffering, then the police bosses shy away to initiate criminal action against the wrong doers.

Deccan Post strongly condemns this ghastly act of blackmail by this rogue section of media and demands strong action against the culprits, so that innocent people will be saved from the highhanded behavior of the mafia in the guise of media. ♦

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Police Inspector nabbed by ACB - Will it fight sincerely?

By Shivkant Bichkunda

It appears that corruption is at its peak in the state especially in Hyderabad city and common man is suffering a lot due to these allegedly corrupt government servants.

Recently, the ACB sleuths caught Nampally Police Station Detective Inspector Y Rajashekhar redhanded while he was allegedly accepting a bribe amount of Rs 20,000/- from the relatives of an alleged accused to remove his name from the charge sheet in Cr No 256/2013. Interestingly, the ACB press note didn't even mention the name of the arrested official in its Press Note No 346, dated: 24-12-2013. What a generosity from the ACB guys for their fraternity in the Police establishment that the name of police inspector nabbed by the anti-corruption agency is carefully omitted from the press note?

The arrested Police Inspector was to book a case on a complaint of illegal trespass with arms to loot the gullible youth who were play-

ing a poker game in some private premises. It is further stated that the accused have entered into a private premises with weapons and looted the gold chains, valuables, costly mobile phones etc. from the youth and ran away. When the victims approached the ACB nabbed police inspector, he assured that he will see that the offenders will be behind the bars sooner than later. But the opposite of the same has happened. The police inspector is said to be seen at Ohris Restaurant, Banjara Hills with the father of an accused enjoying drinks and dinner and taking huge amount of bribes in cash to remove the name of alleged offender. In return for the bribe taken, the Inspector of Police has not booked the case under relevant sections and just charged with sections in which the accused can easily avail bail.

The FIR copy of the said case reveals that the police official has not charged the accused persons with illegal trespass, life threat, dacoity,



robbery, group conspiracy, hurting with criminal intention, pseudo police and cheating etc. and instead booked the case under sections 448, 384, 34 IPC and 25 Arms act just to safeguard the accused people who have allegedly paid the bribes to him to protect them from severe punishments.

On one hand the union government enacts the Lokpal Bill amidst civil society's persistent demand to eradicate corruption from every nook and corner but on the other hand, corrupt officials who care a damn for consequences are seen indulging in such brazen acts just because the system suffers from lack of commitment to root out corruption. It's high time that our judiciary desists from viewing the volume of the bribe amount to accord punishments. It must also punish the guilty for abuse and misuse of powers and manipulations in the FIRs and charge-sheets which can jeopardize the entire case. ♦

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Congress must back 'AAP Sarkar' in Delhi to last

The installation of Aam Admi Party (AAP) government headed by Arvind Kejriwal in Delhi is yet another milestone in the democratic history of our country. Though, the formation of Arvind Kejriwal's AAP government has happened in one of the states which is neither a full-fledged state nor a mere union territory in the (federal) Union of India; it does reflect the changing political dynamics of people in the country. The Delhi assembly is house of 70 MLAs representing about 15 millions of people hailing from all parts of the country residing in the National Territory Capital. In fact, Delhi accounts for seven Lok Sabha MPs which is a bigger representation than many states like Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Goa besides many North Eastern States. The significance of Delhi polls lies in its typical blend of both urban & rural composition portraying its demographic profile and the freshness it offered in our contemporary politics.

The Delhi voters who previously voted the congress led by Sheila Dikshit for three consecutive terms dealt a stunning blow to the grand old party in the recent elections. It is quite significant that Sheila Dikshit lost these elections at the hands of a one year old fledgling Aam Admi Party founded by the organizers of the Anna Hazare's movement against corruption. Until the arrival of the AAP, the politics of power in Delhi revolved around only two national parties. The BJP which defeated the congress in three big states of Rajasthan, MP and Chhattisgarh polls held recently however failed to benefit from the anti-incumbency factor in Delhi. This development is much more relevant than others. It points to the fact that people are absolutely frustrated about lack of alternative choices and are desirous of credible al-



ternatives.

Delhi voters have stunned the two major national political parties which sought to ignore the emergence of the AAP by pretending to be non-serious about its presence. Outgoing Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit who lost to Arvind Kejriwal in New Delhi Assembly seat even rubbished the AAP's canvassing by saying that the fight in Delhi was only between Congress and BJP. Even BJP leaders tried to underplay AAP by attacking only Congress. But, the results were otherwise. The AAP was chosen by 30% of the voters in a hugely participated election. The turnout enabled AAP to bag 28 out of 70 seats in Delhi assembly. It came closer to the simple majority of 36, while BJP emerged as the single largest party with a 32 seat tally. Congress bit the dust by managing just eight seats. Thanks to the AAP's value based politics and the awareness it created among the public, it took over two weeks to form a government. Initially, both BJP and AAP were reluctant to form the government saying that they had no numbers. Both Arvind Kejriwal and BJP

leader Harsh Vardhan made it clear that they would sit in the opposition, instead of trying to form a government based on "Jod-Tod" politics. For the first time, there was no attempt by political parties to engineer defections from the rival parties, even if there is a hung assembly.

This has never happened in our country earlier. When our major parties failed to secure enough numbers they made their best to woo the legislators from the opponents by offering ministerial berths and other inducements. We have seen how in May 2008, the same BJP under Yedurappa formed its first ever government in Karnataka. Why even our former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee in spite of woefully falling short of numbers in 1996 staked claim to form the government just because the BJP emerged as the single largest party. It lasted only for 13 days exposing its attempts at horse trading falling flat.

Minority governments are not new in our country. We have seen how the PV

Narasimha Rao led Congress government; United Front government under Deve Gowda and the present UPA-1 & 2 have managed to survive even if they had no simple majority in the House, through their floor coordination skills and the lack of unity among the opposition camp.

Hitherto, though this has happened many times in the Lok Sabha it is rare in states. Now we can see this in Delhi too. Congress first offered unconditional outside support to the AAP, but later changed its tack saying that its support is not unconditional. Kejriwal too went on record saying that he would certainly dig into the alleged misdeeds of the Congress government, once he forms his government. This has led to speculation that the Kejriwal government may not last more than few months.

But, Deccan Post advises the Congress not to withdraw its support to the AAP government at least for a year or so. After all, the Congress enjoyed power for 15 long years and also done significant development. That's why it was rewarded by the Delhi people for three terms. Moreover, the present congress leadership under Rahul Gandhi can ill afford to dislodge a fledgling political party that has emerged on the scene with enormous goodwill from people.

Team Kejriwal and AAP deserves to be given some reasonable time to prove their mettle and do some good work for the public. Any attempts to sabotage the nascent AAP regime in a hurry will not be condoned by the people of Delhi. The Congress central leadership has the moral responsibility towards the sentiments of the Aam Admi it believes in and that's why lent its support to the AAP government to do its bit. ♦

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Rahul Gandhi ready to take over as PM?

With reference to your last week's cover story one can form opinion that its time that Rahul Gandhi must take over either as Prime Minister or become active in congress party to lead his party to a third term consecutively. One was not able to understand the reluctance of Rahul Gandhi in accepting the responsibility of the highest political office of the country. At this stage a strong wave against congress party is in the nation and congress party desperately need a fresh face like Rahul Gandhi who can lead from the front and prevent the electoral debacle which the party faced in the just concluded assembly elections in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Delhi. A lot of alleged scams like 2G, 3G, SG, Coalgate, Railgate, Common Wealth games etc scams have taken place during the tenure of the UPA-I and UPA-II tenure and congress party will have to counter all these corruption allegations and definitely Rahul Gandhi will be the trump card for Sonia Gandhi as well as

congress party. I wish all the best to Rahul Gandhi in his future endeavors.

B Ram Murthy, Shaikpet



Lokpal is Welcome!

The passing of much awaited and much debated Lokpal Bill has been finally passed by the Indian parliament and one and all should welcome this historic decision of the UPA government even after much opposition from people like Mulayam Singh. I expect that it should not remain just as an act but it should be implemented properly and the governments who will be at the helm of affairs will always be committed for the enactment of Lokpal law for transparent administration and strive for a corruption free society.

Dr Gayatri, E-mail

Lessons from Devyani episode: India must stand firmly

The incident of Devyani Khobragade was quite unfortunate and condemnable. The American government should have cross checked and verified every detail before

arresting a woman diplomat who was serving Indian government. It appears that the American police has acted in haste and was in a hurry to prove something which was actually not true. The protest of Indian government by withdrawing police security to the American Embassy was a bold decision and worth



of praise. The denial of the prime minister and many prominent leaders like Modi etc. to meet the American delegation proves how strong India is even when a powerful country like America acts in haste. Nations like America should not take India for granted and must observe dignity especially in the cases of diplomats and must try that these kinds of blunders will not be repeated.

Jyothi Prasad, E-mail

Readers are requested to send in their feedback to mail@deccanpost.net

Rahul Gandhi masterminds Congress future

By Dr T Siva Prasad Reddy - Special Correspondent

As predicted by DP in its earlier cover story, Rahul Gandhi emerges Congress Party's trump card and it's Prime Ministerial candidate. On the confirmative a leading daily from Delhi quotes that incumbent PM-Manmohan Singh has shown his reluctance to lead af- front for the third time..! This has certainly led one to believe that the recent activities of the shy, young icon of the congress-Rahul Gandhi are nothing but a marked indication to that. In lieu, AICC planned many such party refurbishing programs equating them with UPA Govt's achievements after the recent poll debacles in four assembly elections.

Congress takes solace in holding onto a north-eastern state-Mizoram while having a last laugh in Delhi where Aam Admi Party (AAP) led Govt took oath (28/12/2013) with its support from outside upsetting BJP's calculations altogether. A parting gift at the year end 2013? But how logical it would be for its future would be revealed on the assertive role AAP is slated to play inviting public acceptance as it may barge into the vote bank..! BJP may also be on the same sticky wicket ahead of general elections in 2014 vis-à-vis AAP as it may expected to act as

a double edged knife slicing into both mainstream national parties alike in Delhi and other important cities as AAP looks to expand....! After swearing in along with six ministers - Kejriwal remained categorical on his party's commitment to fight corruption while addressing all popular issues like price rise, hike in electricity, water and property tax throwing incumbent Congress out of power limiting BJP to become the largest party ahead of AAP. Better luck to wisdom based In- dependents deciding to contest.

Rahul Gandhi's Proactive role to the fore, takes lead on Lokpal Bill, chairs All Cong CMs meeting-27/12/2013...even when the campaign for the recently held Assembly elections was in progress Congress and Nation as a whole witnessed a sordid drama with an ordinance issued by Union Cabinet headed by PM was vetoed and overturned by Rahul Gandhi only to be thrown that into a dustbin... Rahul's assertive role in the party became obviously visible in the govt. affairs too. An evolution after the brain storming think-tank AICC session in Rajasthan where he made his attitude and the direction of his thinking in regard to contemporary issues loud and clear. For the critics who were

skeptical about Rahul's leadership qualities till recently in contrast to experienced and seasoned Narendra Modi of BJP-started to rethink. Though, this image of his couldn't change the electoral fortunes of Congress in the recent elections it certainly paved way for another leadership cult in the Congress.

Soon after the election results, while Parliament was in session-another struggle for Lokpal Bill by Gandhian Anna Hazare began in the form of indefinite hunger strike in Ralegaon (hometown of Hazare)-Maharashtra. As the situation became tense Congress and UPA (except outside support parties like SP) ceased the opportunity and led from the front with the guided support of BJP led NDA as did left parties to initiate measures for the smooth passage of the bill in both the houses. Rahul led from the front in appealing to Hazare to call off the strike as they assured for adoption of the bill-a tool to fight corruption in Lok Sabha. UPA did take amendments proposed by Leader of Opposition Sushma Swaraj of BJP into consideration for a smooth passage inviting a positive response from Anna Hazare group. Even during the debate Rahul Gandhi while appreciating Lokpal insisted

on various other bills to curb Graft like bringing Private Sector into its ambit, Lokayukta in states while strengthening existing Lokayukta's in states in tune with Lokpal, further strengthening of RTI Act etc. Even he demanded that all those bills on Graft which would strengthen Lokpal be introduced in the same winter ongoing session itself.

Following success on the fight against corruption bill-Lokpal-Rahul Gandhi chairs an all Congress Chief Ministers Meeting held in Delhi on 27/12/2013. This meeting invited a rare attention of the media as it followed by a very recent poll debacle where Congress lost power in Delhi and Rajasthan while receiving a drubbing for the third consecutive time in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh by BJP (thanks to CM-Shivraj Chauhan and Raman Singh). It held onto power in Mizoram. Soon after the meeting Rahul Gandhi addressed a media conference in Delhi flanked by Congress Chief Ministers (CM-KKR conspicuous by his absence..!), AICC General Secretaries. He listed out the issues to be addressed on priority. First was to address the price rise and in accordance with that initiate measures to mitigate the suffering of the people on a warfront. He also listed RTI as the major achievements of UPA to help a common man to question the transparency of administration. Rahul dealt on the other major issue-Corruption wherein he listed the efforts of Congress and UPA in spearheading Lokpal Bill.

He also demanded for an immediate session to adopt pending draft bills to strengthen Lokpal and asked all opposition parties to support that instead of a tall talk..! He further demanded that all the states ruled by BJP should have Lokayukta to fight corruption by bringing Chief Ministers under its ambit as being done by Congress ruled states. Congress's insistence on smooth passage of Women's Bill as reported by DP is a direct pointer to many a opposition parties including BJP.

This new look image of Rahul Gandhi with categorical assertions alongside achievable directions on many a vital issues has certainly emboldened Congress party cadre after the recent poll debacle. RTI, Food Protection Bill, New Land Regulation Act, Lokpal soon expected Draft Bills, T Bill and Women's Bill etc may form a silver lining for Congress led UPA should they campaign in accordance with the wishes of the people amidst latest self inflicted electoral ruins. But whether this would be enough to stop BJP's Narendra Modi and emerging AAP like parties is to be seen. ♦



Numaish Showcase of industry and culture!

By Jaywant Naidu

Numaish Masnuat-e-Mulki or Numaish also known as Exhibition is an annual consumer exhibition held in Hyderabad, India. The exhibition has remained the only event of its kind in the world to be organized at a stretch for a forty six day period at its twenty three acre permanent venue in Nampally. Numaish Masnuat-e-Mulki meaning exhibition of the local products, was started in the year 1938 by a group of graduates of Osmania University to showcase local products. It was the reign of the Last Nizam of Hyderabad, Mir Osman Ali Khan. From a mere 100 stalls in the year 1938 started at the Public Gardens, the venue has shifted to the Exhibition Grounds, near Hyderabad Railway Station.

In the year 1948, Numaish was christened All India Industrial Exhibition as it grew in scope and size. In the year 1949, the new avatar of Numaish was inaugurated by C Rajagopalachari, then Governor General of India. A host of dignitaries' right from Babu Rajendra Prasad, Dr S Radhakrishnan, Dr Zakir Hussain, Giani Zail Singh to Dr APJ Abdul Kalam have visited the exhibition. It was renamed to its original name, the Numaish in the year 2009. The exhibition features dry fruits and handicrafts of Jammu and Kashmir to handmade garments from Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh, handicraft items from all over India and electronic goods of the best brands in the coun-

try. There are special stalls organized by different ladies groups, convicts and many more. The Hyderabad 'Haleem' is sold by Hyderabad restaurant 'Pista House' at the exhibition.

HISTORY:

One day, at the Osmania Graduates' Association Office, when Mr Mir Ahmed Ali Khan, Mr Mir Akbar Ali Khan (Bar-at-Law), Mr Md Abdul Wahab, Mr Abdur Rahim, Mr Mohammed Ali Khan, Raja Guru Das, Mr Jagirdar, Mr Mahmood Ali, MA (Lecturer City College, Osmania University), Mr Shankarji (Assistant Assessor and Collector, Municipal Corporation of Hyderabad), Mr Premji Lalji, Mr Mohd Farooque, HCS (Asst Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Hyderabad) and Mr Mohd Ghouse were present, various suggestions were considered to raise the funds for the Association required for conducting an economic survey of the State. It struck to Mr Mahmood Ali, Lecturer, City College that the stalls erected in connections with Nizam's Silver Jubilee Numaish (Exhibition) at the Public Gardens, were not dismantled and could be utilized for conducting another Numaish (Exhibition) at minimum expenditure so as to secure necessary funds.

Farooque, H.C.S. Sri Abdur Raheem and Sri Khaja Hameed Ahmed were among the members of the Exhibition Committee. Mr Khaja Hameed Ahmed drafted the

scheme and Prospectus of the first Exhibition. The First Exhibition, consisting of about 100 stalls was hastily set up at Public Gardens, in October, 1938 (Azur 1348). It was inaugurated by the Nizam of Hyderabad Nawab Osman Ali Khan. When the young graduates took the initiative of organizing the Exhibition, what all the capital they had in their pocket was just two and half rupees which they spent on going around individuals and organizations to collect more funds and support. Nawab Mehdi Nawaz Jung Bahadur, who was then the Municipal Commissioner of Hyderabad, came to the rescue of the newly formed Exhibition Committee by diverting some of the municipal staff for sanitation and cleanliness in the Exhibition arena, besides laying roads and providing other amenities.

The Rt. Hon'ble Sir Akbar Hyderi remarked in his Inaugural Address to the Graduates' Conference that the Exhibition was truly representative of practically every important indigenous industry and complimented the Association on its enterprise in organizing it. Thus the Exhibition Society initially came into existence as a 'Committee' of the Economic Committee which itself was a sub-committee of the Osmania Graduates' Association. The Economic Committee, through the newly constituted Exhibition Committee, conducted the first Exhibition in October, 1938 known as Numaish Masnuat-e-Mulki. Its objects were: That the membership will be limited and members

will not be paid any remuneration for the work rendered and that all the profits and savings will be utilized for the development purposes; That all the efforts will be made to promote social, economic and industrial environment in the state in particular and in the country in general; That the exhibition will be used as medium to educate people and to project an image of self-reliance and self-help.

The exhibition was shifted to the present site of twenty acres in the year 1946 by Sir Mizra Ismail, who was then the Prime Minister of Hyderabad. In the year 1956, the Exhibition Society was registered under the Companies Act, as a non-profit organization. This necessity arose mainly due to its having attained an All India stature and also due to its wider scope. Hence the Exhibition Society initiated yet another activity of financing and started setting up educational institutions, particularly for girls like high school, degree, polytechnic and pharmacy colleges, holding seminars, trade meets and health camps round the year, as this was the most neglected sector in the state. Some of these educational institutes getting support are: Lal Bahadur College (Warangal), Sardar Patel College (Secunderabad), Sri Venkateshwara Degree College (Suryapet), Kasthurba Gandhi College for Women (Secunderabad), Sri Lakshmi Narsimha College (Bhongir), Shankerji Memorial Girls High School (Hyderabad), JV Narsing Rao Vidyaniketan School (Nirmal), Kamala Nehru Polytechnic for Women (Hy-

derabad), Sarojini Naidu Vanitha Mahavidyalaya (Hyderabad) and Sri Bramarambika Mallikarjuna Swamy College of Education, (Kalvakurthy). Awards have also been instituted for Best Invention, Import Substitution, Best Export (For non-traditional items from AP), Best Effort in Environment Protection and Pollution Control (for Industries in AP) and Best Entrepreneurship.

NUMAISH 2014:

The annual 'Numaish' beginning on 1st January 2014 will have three-tier security for the forty six day event which attracts thousands of visitors every day. This is the 74th year for the Industrial Exhibition. Around 25 CCTVs and as many night vision cameras will keep round-the-clock vigil on the sprawling exhibition ground. 8-channel digital video recorders, 15 door frame metal detectors, 25 hand held detectors, 6 under vehicle security mirrors, 6 walkie-talkies and two mega phones are also a part of these measures. Two dog squads, 95 security guards, eight supervisors and round-the-clock control room will monitor the whole security set up.

The Exhibition Society will deploy its own volunteers and watch and ward staff. Hyderabad Metro Rail will be exhibiting its model coach. The half coach being installed opposite the Ajanta Gate will have platforms on both sides to lend a touch of reality. Visi-

tors can obtain all the information about the elevated rail and see the different routes it will ply on. The Reserve Bank of India will also have a big display here. There will be 24 stalls to educate the public on various aspects. The Exhibition Society has fixed an exclusive day for ladies on 7th January and children's day on 31st January. Hope this Numaish will be enjoyed by one and all. ♦

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Laugh out loud

Q: Why do Scotsmen wear kilts?

A: Because the sound of zippers scare the sheep away.

Q: If your wife is shouting at the front door and your dog is barking at the back door, who do you let in first?

A: The dog, of course. At least he'll shut up after you let him in.

Q. What do you call a man who has lost 90% of his intelligence?

A. Divorced.

Q: What did the boy octopus say to the girl octopus?

A: I want to hold your hand hand hand hand hand hand hand hand hand.

Instead of Dhoom 3, they could easily have named the movie

'Aamir and 2 Idiots' That would be better.

My pillow is my best hair styler

Everyday, I wake up with different hair style

Elaborate arrangements for New Year and Ekadasi

The Tirupati Joint Executive Officer Sri Pola Bhaskar called upon the officers of various departments in TTD to make elaborate arrangements for new year January 1 and January 11 - 12, Vaikunta Ekadasi and Dwadasi days respectively. Reviewing with HoDs in Sri Padmavathi Guest House in Tirupati on Tuesday he said there should not be any compromise on arrangements and it should be



on par with Tirumala even in local temples including Tiruchanur, Srinivasa Mangapuram, Appalayagunta, Narayanavanam, Nagalapuram etc. he said. Chakrasnanam will be performed on Vaikunta Dwadasi in Tiruchanur. He asked the officers concerned of health, vigilance, engineering, potu departments etc. to make elaborate arrangements for visiting pilgrims.



HEALTH TIPS

Mouth ulcer

- Boil a cup of water with some coriander seeds for five minute, cool till slightly warm and gargle with the water.
- Put fenugreek leaves in warm water for a minute, remove the leaves and gargle with the water.
- Boil crushed cardamom in a glass of water, gargle when water with moderate temperature, also cures bad-breath.
- Chew tulsi leaves (holy basil leaves).
- Eat raw tomato.
- A pinch of turmeric powder and apply over the blisters.
- Alternately gargle with warm and cold water.
- Make a habit of drinking tender coconut water, including different fruit and vegetables in daily diet are good measures to control and prevent mouth ulcer.
- Honey is a natural humectant – that is, it helps to retain moisture and prevent dehydration. It also helps reduce scarring and hastens the process of new tissue growth. This, along with its antimicrobial effect ensures faster healing of the mouth ulcer. You can either dab a little honey onto the mouth ulcer or mix in a little turmeric to make a paste that can be applied to the affected area.

SUDOKU 302

3		5	1	2		4		
9		1	7	4		5	8	
	7			8			3	2
1		2	6	9	7	8	5	3
5			8			2		
8		9	2			7		
	1	3						5
2			3	7	5			4
		4		1		3	7	

How to play : Fill in the grid so that every horizontal row, every vertical column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9, without repeating the numbers in the same row, column or box. You can't change the digits already given in the grid. Every puzzle has one solution.

A N S W E R S

Sudoku-301

4	8	9	1	2	5	6	7	3
5	7	3	6	4	8	1	9	2
6	2	1	3	7	9	5	4	8
1	4	7	8	5	6	2	3	9
3	6	5	2	9	7	8	1	4
2	9	8	4	1	3	7	5	6
9	3	2	5	8	1	4	6	7
8	1	6	7	3	4	9	2	5
7	5	4	9	6	2	3	8	1

Answer 301: Manibhusan, Tarnaka

ASTRO FOCUS

Dec 29,13 - Jan4,14

Aries: You will feel enthusiastic about a new work that you have undertaken recently. New ventures and assignments are likely to take place. Dream job or assignment is within your reach and you can start planning accordingly. Some of you will be getting ready for an overseas trip also. The romantic life will take an interesting turn both for the married and the single.

Taurus: This is a time to put down roots and establish solid foundations, a good time to better organize your life. You are required to remain at a low profile and avoid all confrontations. It is just a matter of time and things will be in normal shape very soon. The employed may get an opportunity to voice their demands. Romance would flourish as your beloved brings you gifts and expensive presents.

Gemini: hose working in partnerships or tie-ups might experience occasional differences with their as-

sociates. This is an excellent period for building new contacts and reviving the old ones. Your quest for knowledge and learning will awaken your desire to read and attend seminars/exhibitions. Unexpected guest towards the weekend would upset your routine.

Cancer: This week your imagination and confidence runs high. You should be cautious with regard to your expenses. Your aspirations to set up an independent business or to settle abroad will be fulfilled. Students receive laurels for their achievements at school. This week you need to act in a very responsible manner to benefit from given opportunities.

Leo: Your convincing power will have a deep impact and people will praise for your efforts. You have to schedule in a planned manner to derive maximum results. There shall be an increase in the resources of material comforts. Sudden good

news later in the week brings happiness and cheers for the entire family. Your efforts will be lauded and you will find yourself bagging some more job offers. Your positive attitude will give you the positive result in your love relationship.

Virgo: You are advised to try to make the optimum use of opportunities when they come along. Financial gains are expected from new contacts. Professionally expect big improvement and you will step by step march towards your goals. This week brings enough opportunities for those who seek jobs. You will enjoy the delights of romance in the company of your beloved.

Libra: You should try to put some extra time and energy into learning additional knowledge and skills that will help you further in your career. Good financial position is indicated this week. A casual conversation can be the stepping stone to a more meaningful relationship as this week begins. You need to be cautious of minor injury. You may complete pending work which can

be emotionally upsetting or cause you physical strain.

Scorpio: Your confidence and ability to work on projects, which require high responsibility, will bring you benefits in the long run. Little diplomacy can make life easier and get the job done quickly. Get involved in outdoor sports or activities that are challenging and will help you stay in perfect shape. Those of you, who got married recently, will get good news of a new arrival.

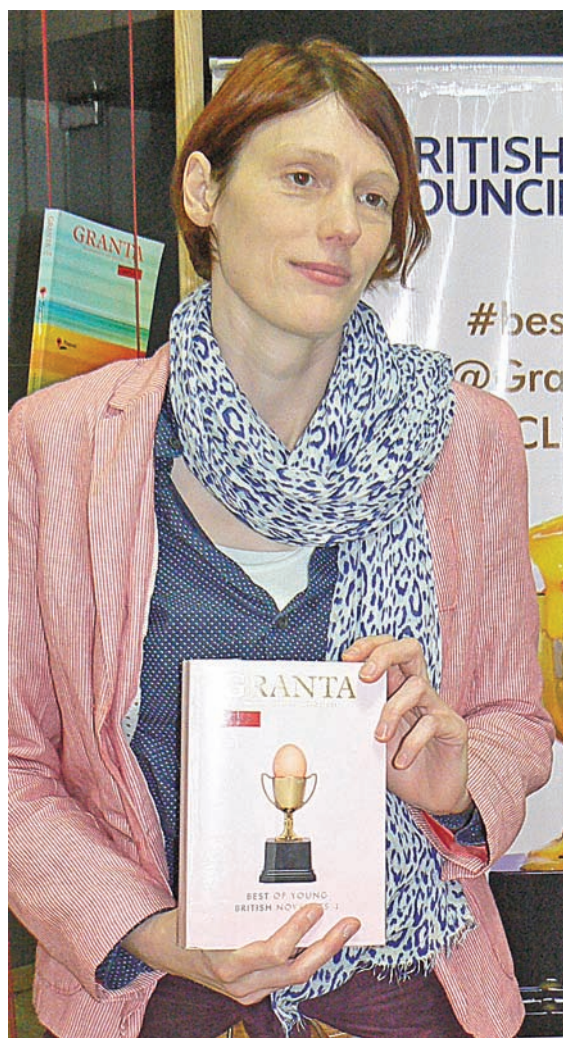
Sagittarius: There is probability of accomplishment of some of the pending tasks. On financial front, this week is a comfortable one. Unexpected income may come into your account. Your hard work shall definitely yield positive results. You must make an extra effort to be generous. Focus your business for the long term basis.

Capricorn: Business will improve and things will get more relaxing at work. Financial gains are certain throughout the week. Friends and

near ones will be helpful to complete pending jobs. Romance would rule your heart this week as you find immense pleasure in the arms of your beloved. Your health will give you positive indication.

Aquarius: Sudden good news brings happiness and lifts your morale. Take as much fluids as possible to keep in good shape. This week you are likely to get involved with new activities to make some quick money. Your partners would bring mutual benefits. A budding romance is on the horizon for some of you. Health of self or of someone in your family may become an issue of concern.

Pisces: Your high energy and dynamic approach would make you popular amongst your colleagues. Fix up something exciting and entertaining to do for the weekend. However preparations done in advance will lead you to the desired goals. Love and romance dominate your week as you spend extra time with your beloved.



The birth of love

Joanna Kavenna, British Novelist was in Hyderabad on invitation of the British Council of India and British Library and spoke to Deccan Post.

What made you take up the writing career?

I have always been a writer. My childhood was spent in reading and writing. I used to write a lot of poetry that time. I also wrote script for many plays. My mind was always filled with the passion for writing.

Can you tell about your travelogue writings?

I have widely travelled in Europe from places ranging Scotland, Iceland, Baltic, Norway, Greenland to Estonia. The first book was focused on a journey of a single person. After the birth of my child, I wrote about this personal experience in the book 'The Birth of Love'. I read a lot of books about childbirth and came across a Hungarian doctor Ignaz Semmelweis, who in the 19th century found that high number of women who died after childbirth could have been prevented if doctors washed their hands between examining women. This book was written between the birth of my first and second child. The book

contains memories and agony of childbirth for a woman.

Why was the title of book 'The Birth of Love'?

'The Birth of Love' is a quotation from Wordsworth. Throughout life, you experience different forms of love; you're loved as a child, you love your parents in a dependent way, you love your lovers, and then you experience a new sort of love for your own children. Hence the thought of bringing in both 'birth' and 'love' into the title.

How did you feel on winning awards for writings?

Awards are not big in life. It is important that the readers appreciate our work. Public recognition through awards sometimes reaffirms the fact that our work has been recognized by the cross section of the society. But this is not true always. Therefore, it is more important that the readers enjoy reading our book.

How easy is the profession of an author?

One has to be passionate. It's not easy to find a publisher, but then the journey is hard and fulfilling at the end.

One has to keep working hard relentlessly.

What inspires you to write?

Nature inspires a lot in life. In my young days, we had lot of natural landscape behind our house. I used to climb the mountains. I was fighting the snow and the winds to climb to the peak. And when I reach the summit, I saw the valley sprawling beneath, the river, the shifting tones of the trees and bracken, even as far as the silver ocean. After a few months of these half-masochistic half-ecstatic climbs, I got the idea for the central character in my book 'Cassandra White'. I imagined her as a force of nature in a sense, someone intricately bound up with this seasonal rise and fall, a woman who has lived in the valley all her life, who has inherited the ramshackle family farm, a woman in robust mid-life.

Are you inspired by any Indian authors?

The writings of Rabindranath Tagore have always been inspiring. ♦

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Sunny publicly kissed by Mika

Mika Singh, the singer, had pulled off a risky stunt a few years ago which involved kissing the fiery Rakhi Sawant in public. That stunt made headlines and grabbed a lot of attention.



Mika now pulled off a less riskier stunt and kissed Sunny Leone. The singer, who has sung for Sunny's films such as Jackpot and Shootout At Wadala plucked up the courage and kissed the former pornstar at a stage show in Gurgaon.

**hot &
SPICE**



This kiss didn't have the drama that the Rakhi Sawant kiss had; as Sunny didn't mind being kissed by the singer.

It turns out he had more up his sleeve than just the kiss as he penned and sung a rap song for the hot Sunny which went something like "Hey! Sunny I am your honey, just be with me, take all my money..."

Mika's kiss with Rakhi Sawant had resulted in a song Tune pappi kyun li.

-DP Desk

Has Sameera got engaged?

Getting engaged secretly and tying the knot without telling anyone seems to be the pick of the season. Recently Veena Malik shocked one and all with her secret marriage, and there comes our hot seductress who followed same path now.

Sexy siren Sameera Reddy debuted into Tollywood with Jr NTR's Narasimhudu and from then she is a bomb here. Later she went on acting with NTR again, then with Megastar Chiru and recently she has done an item song in Rana's Krishnam Vande Jagadgurum. With nothing exciting happening in film career even in Bollywood, it seems like Sameera wants to bid adieu to heroine roles and meaty item numbers. Reportedly she is engaged to her friend Akshai Vardha, who runs bike-design and remodelling business in Mumbai. The couple have met each other at a friend's party a couple of months back and cupid struck them. Buzz is that during her recent birthday on December 14th, Sameera got engaged to Akshai, and the duo will tie knot in 2014. Interesting fact is that 31 year old Sameera actually hails from a Telugu family, and she is born in Rajahmundry before moving to Mumbai at young age due to her father's business.



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Markets steady on positive cues

By V Sundar Raja

The Indian stock market recovered from lower levels and has witnessed a steady but a slow and a cautious uptrend in the last one week. Market sentiment has turned positive after Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has kept the banking interest rates steady, in its recent meet on monetary policy. Market-men had earlier feared that RBI would increase the lending interest rates to contain the rising inflation and this brought much relief. As a result, this move has helped the interest sensitive sectors like the Bank, Real Estate and the Automobiles, to get into an uptrend, while few banks have lowered the interest rates on the home loans.

The Foreign Institutional Investors are reported to continue their record buying spree in the Indian stock market, which helped the markets to scale recent record highs, while the Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) are seen cautious at current levels.

The strong performers are the Mid-cap and small-cap stocks, which have smartly participated in the current market rally. Activity is more visible in the fundamentally sound stocks, which is a positive sign.

Meanwhile, positive economic data is been reported from the American economy which enable the American stock markets to rally into new record highs and also raised the



activity in the Indian market too. Software stocks have staged a further strong rally due to positive global growth news, which is expected to bring more revenues for the Indian software sector. The fast moving consumer sector

(FMCG) has come into limelight after an earlier declining trend, in the last few weeks.

Turnover has seen a decline in the commodity market, with lesser volumes seen in

the Gold and the Silver metals too. Gold has declined from 31,000 levels to current 28,000 levels, in the MCX commodity market. Strong technical support is seen at current levels, where a recovery can be expected. But another major metal Silver is seen in a stabilizing trend at current levels, but needs to sustain above the technical barrier of 45,000 to indicate a relief rally, for the short-term traders to be alert.

The crude oil is now seen in a minor uptrend, after a long consolidation at 6,000 levels, in the last few weeks. But leading base metals have seen a strong run-up in the commodity market, and a correction is due to the over-bought position, for the traders to be cautious.

Rupee is seen in a narrow stable movement at 62 levels against the Dollar, but is seen taking support at 61. Sensex is now again coming closer to the crucial long-term resistance of 21,500 levels, which can be tested in the next few days. Market has to show strength and firmness at historic peak levels, to indicate a further ascending trend. But on the other hand, in-case of any failure to sustain above the key support of 21,000, then it indicates a short-term correction, for the investors to be cautious. ♦

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Note - Investors should be aware of risks in the stock market.

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