

POLITICS OVER NTR STATUE: NAIDU TO COMPLAIN TO SPEAKER OVER NOT BEING INVITED FOR UNVEILING | 5

ENDOWMENTS MINISTER PROMOTES CHIRANJEEVI AS CHIEF MINISTERIAL CANDIDATE FOR 2014 POLLS | 5

TRUE LIES

Kudos for Kiran

The rivalry between **Kiran Kumar Reddy** and TDP president **Chandrababu Naidu** being well known, bureaucratic circles are viewing the appointment of **Prasanna Kumar Mohanty** as chief secretary as yet another brownie point scored by the chief minister against the opposition leader. When Kiran Kumar took over in November 2010, the chief secretary happened to be **S V Prasad**, the man who had once served Naidu as principal secretary. Not only did Kiran continue with Prasad as CS, he also rewarded him with the post-retirement assignment as vigilance commissioner. Mohanty too had served as principal secretary in the Naidu's CMO and in fact the duo of Prasad-Mohanty is credited with having drafted the election manifesto for Naidu in 2004 assembly polls. With Mohanty scheduled to retire in February 2014, speculation is already rife whether the CM would give him an extension till the elections slated to be held a few months after.

Rentala in the race for CAG post

Former AP cadre IAS officer **Rentala Chandrasekhar** is a front-runner for the post of comptroller and auditor general (CAG) as incumbent **Vinod Rai** completes his tenure on May 31. Chandrasekhar, a 1975 batch officer, superannuated as telecom secretary at the end of March this year and in contention along with him for the coveted post are a bunch of top babus. These include defence secretary **Shashi Kant Sharma**, a 1976 batch Bihar cadre IAS officer who will superannuate in July, and former petroleum secretary **G C Chaturvedi**, a 1977 batch UP cadre officer. However, while the UPA government has no issue with Chandrasekhar being appointed as next CAG, many opposition leaders are opposed to the idea of a former telecom babu being made the next CAG as they see a conflict of interest as investigations are still on in the 2G scam by the central audit authority. A decision on the new CAG is expected in the coming days.

Lessons from this top cop

The grapevine has it that an IPS officer holding an important position has been harassing officials of the Board of Intermediate Education. It transpires that the son of the top cop scored 33 marks out of 60 in the first year physics examination that he took in March 2012. Unhappy with the low score, the officer has paid many visits to the intermediate board office as well as spoken to the officials concerned over phone over the last one year, during which

time the teenager applied for revaluation and his score improved to 39. Following persistent pressure from the officer, the board officials summoned three subject experts and got the physics paper reevaluated again, but it did not improve the score any further. The student has since passed his Intermediate final examination but the father is not letting go of the issue of the first year physics marks, implying that the board officials and not the student were to blame. When last heard, unable to bear the pressure by the IPS officer, Intermediate board officials have decided to lodge a complaint with the chief secretary.

1980 babus make their moves

The four IAS officers of the 1980 batch serving in the state are getting ready to hail chief secretary **PK Mohanty**. At stake is their promotion to the rank of special chief secretary which has been hanging fire since the Centre kept it on hold despite the departmental promotion committee clearing it and the state government seconding it. The four officers, **Prasanta Mahapatra**, **Lakshmi Parthasarthy**, **A K Parida** and **CVSK Sarma** (SN Mohanty, the fifth officer belonging to this batch, is on central deputation) feel that

the state government could have still gone ahead with the promotions, and blame **Minnie Mathew**, chief secretary till last

week, for having denied it to them on the pretext that there were no vacancies. The grapevine has it that the foursome is waiting to meet Mohanty at the earliest to plead their case. Most keen is CVSK Sarma, the junior most member of this batch who will superannuate at the end of July this year.

A grand affair, this

It was a wedding reception that appeared to be organized by a very important politician. In reality, it was that of the son of IAS officer couple **K Raju** and **Damayanti** that was hosted at the IAS Officers' Association premises at Begumpet last week. What gave it a grand appearance was that scores of politicians of all hues, from chief minister **Kiran Kumar Reddy** to ministers, MPs, MLAs, bureaucrats and police officers and at least a dozen Union secretaries from Delhi were in attendance. So, why did so many grace the occasion taking time off their busy schedule? Reason: Raju happens to be additional secretary in the National Advisory Council which is headed by Congress president **Sonia Gandhi**. Apparently, the power that she wields seems to rub off on those who are closely associated with her in any form!

578 'illegal' schools face closure this year

Move May Affect Close To 1.16 Lakh Students in Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy Districts

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: As many as 578 unrecognized schools in the city and Ranga Reddy district face closure from June this year, which means that around 1.16 lakh students could be left in the lurch and may have to take admission elsewhere.

Cracking the whip for not applying for recognition, the school education department published a list of private English and Telugu medium schools in the two districts on Sunday. These schools will not be allowed to admit fresh students in the next academic year, officials said, adding that the list would be put up on the department website for the benefit of parents.

"The list is expected to be a guide for parents who want to enrol their children in schools. These (unrecognized) schools could be closed if they do not apply for affiliation under the state board within three months," said A Subba Reddy, district education officer, Hyderabad. The government is all set to close down more unrecognized schools in the future, officials said.

Meanwhile, the education department has decided to help the students of such 'illegal' schools. "The students can take admission in nearby government schools if they do not

Govt to help affected students

'Illegal' schools will be closed if they do not apply for affiliation with state board within three months



School education department will help affected students get admission in government schools if recognized private schools do not admit them

Educationists demand admission for students in private schools under Right to Education Act

get admission in private schools," Reddy said.

However, experts say many students may not want to opt for government schools. "Parents may have opted for these unrecognized schools as most of them provide English medi-

um education. They may not want to opt for government schools, most of which provide education in Telugu medium," said N Ramana Reddy from Save Our Education Society. Students should be given the option of studying in reputed and recog-

nized private schools under the Right to Education (RTE) Act, he added.

Under the RTE Act, 25 per cent of the seats in private schools are reserved for children from socio-economically weaker backgrounds. Educationists said that instead of just closing down unrecognized schools, officials should take care to first implement the RTE Act. "The act has not been implemented in the state even three years after it was instituted. The state government should take extra effort to implement the act now as it is cracking the whip on unrecognized private schools," said R Venkat Reddy, director, M V Foundation.

COLOURFUL FINALE



Dancers perform during the closing ceremony of Rotary South Asia Summit 2013 at Novotel, HICC, in Madhapur on Sunday

Piling e-waste turning city toxic

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Throwing out your old computer in a garbage dump may lead to mercury poisoning and a possible brain stroke. Confused? Experts on e-waste (electronic waste) management warned Hyderabadis against the hazards of not disposing e-waste properly and going by their claims, the city could have its very own Erin Brockovich story if immediate steps are not taken.

In fact, some say the city is at the top spot when it comes to illegally converting PC monitors into television sets especially during lucrative periods like the ongoing IPL season, and later dumping them in water bodies.

Around 50,000 such converted television sets are manufactured here and sent to other cities as well.

"There are very few authorised recyclers of e-waste in Andhra Pradesh whereas there is no dearth of unau-



Experts say chemicals in electronic appliances can seep through and contaminate ground water over time

thorised dealers," said Jagdish Kumar Yadav, director of marketing at Tech Logic E-waste Recyclers, a company based in Bangalore, which collects electronic garbage from several cities, including Hyderabad.

"These unauthorised dealers indulge in activities such as converting monitors to TV's and reselling other appliances too at lower prices. During the IPL season, at least 50,000 such TVs are sold to bookies, pubs and hotels in various cities who later simply dispose them in nearby water bodies or open areas, lead-

ing to contamination," he added.

Experts said chemicals inside electronic appliances, especially mobile phones, laptops and desktops, such as lead and mercury, could seep through the ground and contaminate the ground water. Although the process takes long, it would eventually result in serious ailments, including brain stroke and cancer, among those exposed.

"Being an IT hub, Hyderabad generates almost just as much e-waste as Bangalore. But the amount collected for recycling by authorised deal-

ers is less than half of that of Bangalore's," said G M Adil, general manager at Global E-waste Management Solutions (GEMS) which has earmarked the city as a collection point.

Officials from the company revealed that while the amount of e-waste collected from Hyderabad is around 1,000 kg per month, the figure in Bangalore is closer to 3,000 kg. The total amount collected annually from here is around only 15% of what is collected in Chennai, they added.

"There is a need to spread awareness about proper disposal and recycling of e-waste here," said Mohammed Ibrahim Aamir Khan, vice president of GEMS, Hyderabad.

"Unauthorised dealers pay around Rs 15 more per kg of waste compared to us, so residents choose to sell old appliances to scrap dealers. We are trying to change that by placing e-waste bins in several public places and holding workshops in companies, schools and colleges," he said.

Chaos, negligence on Kukatpally road anger residents

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: From bad to worse, that is exactly how techies working at the Hi-Tec City describe travelling on the Kukatpally-Miyapur road, which is not only the busiest but also a glaring example of neglect by the administration.

The 7-km stretch is extensively used for commuting by a large number of IT employees who reside in nearby localities. "It is nothing less than a torture to travel on this stretch," said B Rohith, a software professional who resides in Miyapur and travels to Gachibowli everyday.

A plethora of problems plague this road and it has only worsened over the past few months. Some of these include lack of traffic signals, negligible presence of traffic personnel, haphazard parking outside commercial establishments and encroachment by autos and inter-city buses.

"Previously it used to take me an hour to reach office but now it takes me two hours. The problem is not the distance but the volume of traffic which drains me by the time I reach office. There is absolutely no traffic discipline and traffic management by officials is poor," says Rohith.

Despite several complaints, officials have done nothing to improve the situation. "I have complained twice to the traffic department as well as to the GHMC officials, but nothing has been done till date," said Sharada Annamaraju, a working professional residing in the area. "This stretch is very risky for the pedestrians and I was hit by an auto some days ago. There are many such incidents taking place on this

road and the major reason is the lack of bus stops. After road widening, some of the bus stops have disappeared and some commercial establishments have taken over this space," Sharada said.

The civic authorities are being blamed as permissions were given without much thought. "How can they give permissions to commercial establishments when there is no scope for parking and when the traffic volume in the area has already peaked?" questioned S V Murali, a lo-



Lack of traffic signals and cops, haphazard parking of vehicles, including that by autos and buses are a few of the problems in the area

cal activist. "In the last couple of years alone, innumerable permissions have been granted for schools, colleges, clothing stores, supermarkets, jewellery outlets etc. There is also no attempt to remove the hawkers and pushcart vendors who are openly encroaching upon the road and adding to the problem." Senior police officials said they were working on the problem and were taking steps. "We have received complaints and will very soon undertake some measures," said an officer.

ROAD RACE?



A horse took motorists by surprise at Khairatabad on Sunday when it suddenly decided to trot towards the oncoming traffic

No complaint lodged for 'Charan attack'

► From P1

Hyderabad: Kalyan, who was driving the car, got down from the vehicle to go to his friend's rescue. In a hurry, Kalyan forgot to wear his sandals and stepped on the road. Due to the scorching heat, blisters were formed on his soles.

After the assault, the actor and his associates left the spot and the victims drove to the Punjagutta police station to lodge a complaint. After verifying about the location of the incident, the Punjagutta police directed the victims to approach the Banjara Hills police.

Before entering the police station, Phaneesh told the media that the actor and his associates had assaulted him, but ironically, after meeting police, he was reluctant to talk to the waiting press personnel. Before leaving the police station, Phaneesh told the media that they had decided not to lodge any complaint. "It was a small incident. We have decided not to lodge a complaint," Phaneesh said.

When contacted, Banjara Hills inspector P Murali Krishna said as the victims did not lodge any complaint, they have not booked a case.

PILLAR TO POST

Stop dumping garbage

The Shalivahana Enclave in GHMC's Kapra circle has 248 houses. On the morning of April 7, several GHMC vehicles started dumping garbage in the colony park and soon the whole colony was enveloped by its stink. On enquiry, the GHMC drivers said they had been told to dump the garbage there by assistant medical officer, GHMC, Kapra Circle. When we talked to this officer, the callous reply we got was to be glad the garbage was not dumped in front of our houses. The stink from the garbage has made life very difficult for us. Before the groundwater is also contaminated, I request the GHMC officials to stop the dumping of garbage in our colony and look for other alternatives.

VC Ravi, SHALIVAHANA ENCLAVE, KAPRA, YELLAREDDYGUDA, ECIL PO, HYDERABAD-062
Mob: 9948062640 / 27131581

No water since 3 months

We are facing constant problems with our water supply for the last three months despite clearing the bills on time. We gave a written complaint to HMWS&SB several times, but no action was taken on the issue. In our street, there are around four to five houses which face the same problem of no water supply. I request the authorities concerned to take action and provide water at the earliest.

Mohammed Afsar, PLOT NO 21-4-884, GULABSINGH LANE, PETLABURI, HYDERABAD



WADING THROUGH SEWAGE: Overflowing sewage on Punjagutta-Khairatabad road resulted in inconvenience for pedestrians and motorists

Garbage dumped on Medchal highway

I am a resident of Petbasheerbad. The bypass road that connects the Medchal highway to Suchitra junction is covered with garbage and debris is strewn all over it. The rains worsen the situation, leaving absolutely no space for those who are driving or walking. The road has turned very narrow because of which vehicles are facing a lot of problems while going towards Suchitra junction. I request the authorities concerned to prevent the garbage dumping on the highway.

Prabhu Addanki, FLAT NO 317, NCL GANGA APTS, PETBASHEERBAD, HYDERABAD-055

Rampant borewell drilling

There has been continuous drilling of borewells in Anand Bagh this summer. The district collector had made it amply clear that nobody would be allowed to drill borewells and the same was also reported in newspapers. Then how are people getting the permissions to drill? The residents in our area are facing water scarcity as most borewells have gone dry. I hereby request the collector and other authorities concerned to stop giving the go-ahead for this drilling before the situation goes out of hand.

Radhakrishnan, VIA EMAIL

Woman stabs rival 9 times to stop marriage of her 'lover'

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: A 25-year-old divorcee stabbed nine times the fiancée of the man she had been chasing for long unsuccessfully in Hyderabad on Saturday night.

The woman, P Mamata from Krishna Nagar, who runs a fast-food centre in Hanamkonda. However, Kumar was not interested in marrying her and on April 9, got engaged to Divya Sree from Wardhanapet.

In order to stop Divya Sree from marrying Kumar, Mamata began telling her concocted stories about his 'bad' character over the past few weeks. On Saturday morning, she told Divya that Kumar was getting married to another

woman and asked her to come to the city to catch him red handed. To verify the claims, Divya came to Hyderabad and went with Mamata to her sister's house in Krishna Nagar.

At night, Mamata picked up an argument with Divya over her marriage to Kumar and suddenly attacked her with a kitchen knife. "Mamata stabbed Divya nine times in the face and chest," Banjara Hills inspector P Murali Krishna said. After the assault, Mamata locked the house and left.

Divya managed to call her father, a constable in Warangal, who shifted her to a hospital with the help of relatives. Her condition is said to be stable. Mamata was taken into custody and a case was registered against her under section 307 (Attempt to murder) of the IPC.