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THE PLIGHT OF STORM WATER DRAINS



Storm Water Drain at Kormangala. Photo Credits: Anand Prince

Ajith M S

“During rains the swell was at Nagashettihalli lake, not our homes”

said Rayappa, a second generation dhobi pointing at the tall walls of Antariksh Bhavan, the headquarters of ISRO near his dwelling in Banga-

lore. Rayappa could identify the depressions and tracts which led to the now dried up lake.

The landlocked capital of Karnata-

ka has to depend on a system of storm water drains, also called rajakaluves, both natural and man-made, to discharge rain water. Unfortunately most of these drains are encroached and have multiple stores of concrete and heaps of garbage piled up.

Added to this is the presence of large sewer pipes which run alongside the SWDs eventually obstructing its flow.

Topographically the city has four storm water catchment valleys namely Vrishabhavathi valley around Rajarajeshwari nagar, Challengatta valley near Ejipura, Hebbal valley and Koramangala-Madiwala valley carry the water from the city's upland area to a closed network of lakes.

But, the exponential growth of this city has forced concrete filth over these very same areas and have choked its drain system.

This was evident from the fact that last major downpour towards the end of November month had flooded the Koramangala-Madiwala valley which domened areas around Bannerghatta road into

large scale water logging.

Apart from the encroachments, these storm water drains are vacated from their purpose by the ill designed sewage network of this metropolis.

Majority of these are mistaken to be sewage channels around the city, adding to this issue is the presence of solid wastes which obstruct the flow of water, thereby creating heaps of garbage.

These piles of garbage and sewage channels cause deviations of the storm water drains causing infectious floods.

To save the city from another November rain, it is necessary to reclaim these lost storm water drains but through demolition format drives and forcible mass evacuations.

Instead, there should be an efficient authority to re-plan and redraw this channel network of Bangalore in accordance with practicality.

And also the authorities should have a relook at the sewage network and its convolution with the storm water drains or rajakaluves.

Legacy vs Technology

Angel T. Alex

One hot cup and a newspaper makes for a brighter morning and a better day. This has been the tradition right from the time our parents and grandparents read newspapers in the morning. But the youth don't hold it so important.

Why do the youth prefer mobile screens rather than a printed newspaper?

The quick growth of the online media around the world has revolutionized the traditional setting.

Online news is representing the social priorities and news tool for communication.

Online media offers a lot to the viewers, such as online newspaper, online news illustrations, news items and blogs.

They maintain a close relationship with the advertis-

ers. It serves as an interactive toolbox. Youth get more attracted towards the internet in the globalised era because of the fast updates every second.

The total revenue within the newspaper industry has been decreased by 2.6 per cent but they are trying to increase the circulation by adding commentaries, newsworthy stories, catchy advertisements and headlines.

Global marketing reserach firm Nielsen Corporation in a global study reveals that 70 per cent of the people prefers online media over paper based newspaper. Hence, the newspapers are challenged in terms of circulation.

In addition to visiting their favourite news portals, they rely on social networks as

well.

Users who consume news through their gadgets spend an average of 50 minutes a day to read.

Newspapers are the guardians of the democracy. Knowledgeable public is essential for the growth of democracy and they design a complete picture of our daily lives and also turn the people for or against the ideas. They concentrate on every aspect of news like sports, national, international, matrimonial, entertainment, lifestyle and business.

Reading newspaper is a good habit and it should be cultivated more.

They are not just stories but anecdotes and events from the lives of its readers. It is the newspaper that stimulates emotions, civic sense, responsibility and pride for one's nation.

It is a worthy paper to be read as it influences and inspires the youth to be more responsible and aware citizens of the second largest democracy.

From times immemorial, the newspaper has been the primary source of information but even in the current times when social and electronic media have taken over.

Newspaper remains the most credible source of information. It should be continued as a legacy.

Karnataka bandh: Movie screenings pulled off



Bhumika N

The anticipation of movie lovers turned worse when a bandh was declared in Bengaluru city due to the Cauvery row.

Single screen theatres and multiplexes had no other option but to cancel the shows.

This affected the releases of the films thus putting the distribution in loss.

The ticket booking websites did not show the availability of any ticket. Only three theaters were allotted space for Baar Baar Dekho, the high budget bollywood movie and the only timing made available for running the movie was during late evenings.

Due to this, the movies released during the violence had less takers and so it could manage to get only

average reviews with less star ratings and scores.

For Baar Baar Dekho, the collection figures got affected by five to seven percentage on day one.

Box office had predicted an 80 crore lifetime number for Baar Baar Dekho but the film could garner only 65 crores in the box office which led the movie being judged a flop.

Even after a week of its release the theatre owners and distributors were apprehensive to exhibit any films further.

The directors and producers of many movies were scared of releasing their films on the decided dates as the violence had not subsided.

The Cauvery row curbed the interests of the movie goers because of threats, violence and curfew.



Indian sports in dire straits

The second largest democracy has won less Olympic gold medals than the U.S. Also, swimmer Michael Phelps, has won more gold in a single edition of Olympics than India. In India, people either are not aware of sports opportunities or are least interested in the field of sports. The Indian sports has been in a bad light due to its lack of amenities provided to the Indian Olympic contingent at Rio and also during other international games. Indian sports fails to provide the best facilities because of the lack of funds, training centres, non-availability of expert physiotherapists, unavailability of well-trained, experienced and knowledgeable trainers, lack of equipments, scholarships, finance, support, diet and other hygienic ambience.

The recently concluded Rio Olympics had shown stalwarts like Dipa Karmakar, P.V. Sindhu and Sakshi Malik gaining momentum and glory. But their story is beyond the podium. It is through these Indian stars that people noticed gymnastics, wrestling and badminton doing well because India till date had only hailed cricket as its main sport. But their achievements are yet to be lauded.

India compared to other countries has ranked very low in the medal tally. Countries like the U.S and China have solid sports infrastructure and a remarkable proportion of the population earns huge money through sports. The schools there have good sports coaching centres and they consider sports to be equally important as academics, so it starts at the grass root level for the sports aspirants there. These countries rank high in the medal tally because they have expert coaches, experienced doctors, health insurance, excellent environmental ambience. If the government and big corporate honchos provide the much needed infrastructure and support to the Sports Ministry and the sportspersons, the players can do wonders. Sports if sponsored or endorsed by celebrities can rake in high moolahs. School curriculums should include sports too. Only then can sports in India gain much attention across the globe, because India has proved that it has the potential to do better. May be in the coming years, we may see a brighter future with India standing on one of the three ranks on the podium, with high record breaking medal tallies and the flag soaring high at the international platforms.

TOON NOOK



Angel T Alex

Bengaluru: India's blooming start up capital

Christena Stephen

A walk through the epicenter of the IT boom in Whitefield would give you the grip of the startup fever in the city.

The city has coffee shops offering space for startup discussion, pubs with happy hours for startup entrepreneurs and clothing brands feature their startup CEO collections. "Bengaluru offers us the most favorable environment to grow.

This city has got a strong support system, better access to capital with high networth individuals and

mentorship support. We were able to close the first round of funding in a matter of 20 days," says Ameen O T, Co-founder of web development startup Hexwhale.

Bangalore also has the young entrepreneurs, with an average of 28 years.

As a result of high exit values and sharp growth in venture funding, Bangalore is the second fastest growing start up ecosystem across the globe.

'Start up India' campaign is based on an action plan aimed at promot-

Insights of politics from a corporator ;

P. Anju Chowdary

Bande.S.Raja is the BJP party corporator, of Vijinapura ward. Graduated in B.A (Political Science) he is popular among youth for his dedication, amicable nature and non-controversial attitude.

Also, a person free from common political allegations which makes him a youth icon.

Q What is your political motive?

It is to develop my ward, constituency, district and state. I want to strive hard and serve my country.

Q What is the driving force of your success as a politician?

The youth are my backbone. My success credits goes to them.

Q So far, what developmental work have you overseen in the ward?

We have laid roads, drainage systems, water plant, transport facilities, 600 BPL cards so far. And also providing Aadhar cards and BPL coupons from the office directly for the convenience of the public. We have also helped poor students with respect to education and have got a sanction for a government hospital.

Q Your future plans with respect to ward development?

We are planning to start a Bangalore One office which will help the payment of taxes, water bills, electricity

bills easy. Also, three new government projects are in pipeline. A government school, a PU and Degree college is also on the agenda.

Q Who is your inspiration and why?

It is Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayee. When I was a student in 1992, he had visited Bangalore and I worked under him as an Assistant. I have always adored his simplicity and love for the country.



Q How do you handle the allegations against you?

I hold a clean chit. If at all I'm accused, I have the capability to prove my innocence. And if I'm wrong, I will be honest enough to admit my folly.

Q Opinion about youth participation in political scenario? Any message for them?

Absolutely, the participation of youth in politics is very necessary. It

is possible only by the youth to bring in the required changes in India.

The best example is that of the Manipuri Student Unit, and the leader of it could become the C.M of the state. And that state is developing fast within a less span of time.

I also request the youth and politicians to work irrespective of the parties you belong to when it comes to developing the country.

Q What is your take on the role of social media in politics ?

I feel the media needs to be more responsible and should only confine to facts, not highlight the unnecessary.

Q Your comment on present media and paid news?

Present media is doing a wonderful job, not all are good and not all are bad. So, they should just stick to their ethics.

But when it comes to paid news – it should be the responsibility of the media organization to politely deny such offers. Unfortunately, they are more into business, and so they can't deny such offers too.

Q Your message for the youth.

The youth are my back bone. So I wish that they actively participate in politics and other governance activities for the country. They are the change makers of the nation so I would also suggest them to join politics or defence with the intention to serve the country better.

Mussels, bring threat among coastal people of Malabar

Jishy Johny



The people selling mussels are in great trouble as their only means of livelihood will not be of any help to them anymore. Periakallu gets the maximum yield of mussels in Calicut district. Thousands of workers from Chalium to Elathoor earn their livelihood through mussels farming. For eight months they collect mussels. Mussels, also known as *kadukka*, is mostly consumed by the people of

Malabar. It is one of their popular and favorite cuisines.

October is the last month for collecting mussels but unfortunately workers could not collect any mussels. V.K.Afsal, one of the workers said that it was the first time ever in sixteen years, they had returned empty handed.

Normally, due to sea water changes the mussels have been destroyed.

The workers have asked for compensation from the government because they eke out their living only through selling these.

There has been a decline in the collection of mussels and so the workers assume that the species may be on the verge of extinction.

Dr. Gulmuhammed of Central Marine Research Institute said that the growth in mussels has declined over the years due to the El Nino phenomenon. Wherein, the oceanic temperature increases resulting in migration of marine population to colder regions. Especially in the case of mussels they cannot exist in harsh conditions.

He has proposed artificial seeding through traditional practices. Hopefully the government shall take into consideration their requests for compensation and grant better employment opportunities.

Engaging and enabling educational experience online

Jishy Johny

There is a tremendous growth in digital world. Eight year old Shine Santow, is glued to the mobile for a long time. His mother misinterprets it thinking, he is playing games. Actually Shine is studying using an educational app. Students these days are interested in educational apps because it is far more convenient and easy than taking down notes or searching for contents in the library.

Class room connect, Prulu, net Trekker, Course Smart, Byju's, Learn360, Edmodo, QuestionPress, Youbthere, StudyMate, ClassDojo, Google classroom, Kahoot, Powerschool Mobile, Merlot and Popplet are also apps that are in trend in the academic industry today.

These apps help create an enabling educative experience thereby, making academics more easy and brainstorming.