

## IN BRIEF



### Udupi Math opens three new spiritual learning centres

BENGALURU: Sri Sri Sugunendra Theertha Swamiji of Udupi Sri Puttige Math inaugurated the Sri Puttige Suguna School for children of the Trimata Vipra community, the Sri Puttige Mahila Vidya Peetha for women, and the Sri Puttige Sandhya Vidya Peetha for men at the Sri Govardhan Kshetra branch in Basavanagudi, Bengaluru on Friday.

While performing the inauguration, he emphasised that spiritual education holds greater importance than modern education. He observed that people today are becoming increasingly outward-focused while turning internally weak and stunted.

The Swamiji stated that spiritual knowledge serves as the complete solution for a fulfilled life and that these institutions are highly essential to restore the prominence of spirituality in society. Bhadrakere Math's Sri Sri Vidyeshaertha Swamiji praised the women's vidya peetha as a revolutionary concept and stressed that proper family management based on Sanatan Dharma is crucial for nation-building, with women playing a vital role.

Karnataka Sanskrit University Vice Chancellor Ahilya Sharma expressed concern that nearly 40 percent of people might become averse to marriage in the future and urged society to act immediately. Karnataka Brahmin Development Council President Asagodu Jayasimha and Dr. K P Putturaya lauded the social concern shown by Sri Puttige Swamiji.

### Brutal attack on Uber driver caught on camera

BENGALURU: An Uber cab driver suffered a severe beating on KH Road in Bengaluru on May 22 when another driver and his associates stopped the vehicle in the middle of the road. The attackers dragged the driver out of the cab and thrashed him violently.

A young woman stood nearby as the assault took place, but the gang showed no restraint while carrying out the deadly attack. The disturbing CCTV footage of the incident has gone viral on social media platforms. The event occurred under the Wilson Garden police station jurisdiction. Although no formal complaint has been registered so far, police have taken the matter seriously and visited the spot for inspection. Officers are now actively scanning footage from multiple CCTV cameras around KH Road to identify the vehicles involved and trace the culprits. Searches are underway to locate and apprehend the gang members responsible for the attack.

### Police conduct special vehicle checking drive

BENGALURU: The North East Division of Bengaluru City Police carried out a special vehicle checking operation across multiple police station jurisdictions on the directions of the Commissioner of Police.

The drive covered the areas under Yelahanka New Town, Kodigehalli, Amruthahalli, and Yelahanka Police Stations. A total of 20 police officers and staff were deployed at various locations as part of preventive policing measures aimed at maintaining law and order and curbing criminal activities.

During the operation, authorities checked 143 vehicles, which included 97 two-wheelers, 24 three-wheelers, and other vehicles. Officers also verified 8 rowdy sheeters and 2 MOB offenders.

## Upcoming Anekal cricket stadium to accommodate 80,000 spectators

WORTH RS 900-CR, IT IS COMING UP ON 100 ACRES BY 2029

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BENGALURU

A major milestone in Karnataka's sports infrastructure development was marked on Saturday as Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar jointly laid the foundation stone for a massive international cricket stadium at Indlawadi village in Anekal taluk on the outskirts of Bengaluru.

The proposed stadium, which is being developed at an estimated cost of Rs 900 crore, is expected to become the second-largest international cricket stadium in the country with a seating capacity of nearly 80,000 spectators. The ambitious project is being undertaken by the Karnataka Housing Board across nearly 100 acres of land and is expected to be completed



within the next two to three years.

The groundbreaking ceremony was held amid much fanfare, with thousands of people and party workers gathering at the venue. Local MLA Anekal Shivanna welcomed the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister by presenting them with a symbolic silver mace as a

mark of honour and appreciation. The dignitaries were also greeted with massive apple garlands, traditional folk performances and ceremonial 'Poorna Kumbha' processions by women.

Several senior political leaders and officials attended the event, including Home Minister G. Parameashwara, MLA K.M. Shivalingegowda,

CM's legal advisor A.S. Ponnanna and MLA Krishnappa.

Officials said the upcoming sports complex will feature world-class indoor, outdoor and aquatic facilities. The indoor sports arena will accommodate 11 major disciplines including badminton, basketball, volleyball, handball, table tennis, squash, kabaddi, kho-kho, judo, taek-

wondo, wrestling, fencing and weightlifting.

The project will also include an Olympic-size swimming pool, a high-diving pool, a separate practice pool, synthetic athletic tracks and courts for tennis, basketball and volleyball. Dedicated arenas for emerging sports like padel and pickleball are also planned.

Apart from sports facilities, the stadium complex will feature multilevel parking for more than 500 vehicles, commercial and retail outlets, sports equipment stores, food courts and modern accommodation facilities for players, coaches and staff. A helipad, public plaza and a large green zone are also part of the master plan. Speaking to the media, Housing Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan said the demand for a stadium and educational infrastructure in



the region had been pending for several years. He added that the recent crowd management concerns witnessed

during IPL matches in Bengaluru highlighted the need for another large stadium on the city's outskirts.

## 'Hindu civilisation declined due to political subjugation'

BENGALURU

POLITICAL subjugation and internal shortcomings were among the major reasons for the decline of Hindu civilisation, UPSC Secretary Shashi Ranjan Kumar said on Saturday. While speaking at a dialogue event in Bengaluru on his book, 'The Decline of Hindu Civilization: Lessons from the Past', he stressed that the concept of 'Anvikshaki', or critical inquiry, formed the foundation of Indian intellectual traditions.

The event was organised at Central College of Bangalore University by the Department of Communication, Bangalore University, the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication of Dr Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University, the Karnataka State Journalism and Mass Communication Teachers Association, and the Indian Communication Congress.

India's history is not merely a chronicle of political transitions, but a continuous journey of exploration in knowledge, science, and philosophy, Kumar said.

Kumar said ancient India had achieved remarkable milestones in mathematics, astronomy, medicine and



philosophy, adding that Indian civilisation contributed the concept of "zero" to the world and understood negative numbers long before Arab mathematicians rejected them.

He said Indian science differed from Greek science in its emphasis on empirical observation and algorithmic procedures, whereas Greek science relied more on deductive reasoning and physical models.

Addressing the decline of Hindu civilisation, Kumar said the weakening of intellectual traditions resulted from both political domination and internal failings. "The rich intellectual traditions waned due to politi-

cal subjugation and internal flaws," the UPSC secretary said.

Strategic and technological thinking diminished in India after Kautilya's Arthashastra, causing the region to fall significantly behind the advancements of European science, he said.

He also observed that India's geographical advantages, including the protection offered by the Himalayas and fertile lands, reduced the drive among people to explore the outside world.

"The collapse of a civilisation is rarely the result of a single isolated event; rather, such tragedies occur due to the accumulation of numerous small, uncorrected mis-

takes," Kumar said.

He cautioned that declining construction quality and lack of attention to detail in modern India reflected a growing tendency to tolerate mediocrity instead of striving for excellence.

Kumar further said the present education system had failed to nurture a critical civilisational consciousness, making self-study essential for acquiring deeper historical understanding.

Vice-Chancellor of Bengaluru North University Prof B K Ravi and Vice-Chancellor of Dr Manmohan Singh Bengaluru City University Prof Ramesh B also shared their views on the book.

## Nikhil Kumaraswamy targets DKS over 'Cockroach Janata Party' remarks

Remarks made in response to statements made by DK Shivakumar during a recent Congress convention in Tumakuru, where the Deputy CM had reportedly mocked former Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy for aspiring to become Chief Minister despite the party's reduced numbers in the Assembly

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BENGALURU

A fresh political war of words has erupted in Karnataka with JD(S) youth wing president Nikhil Kumaraswamy launching a sharp attack on Deputy Chief Minister D. K. Shivakumar while sarcastically referring to the so-called "Cockroach Janata Party" (CJP), a phrase currently making rounds in political discussions. Speaking to reporters, Nikhil Kumaraswamy mocked DK Shivakumar and challenged him to prove his political strength by leading the "CJP" in Karnataka and winning 50 Assembly seats in the 2028 elections.

"I am not forcing DK Shivakumar to float a regional party. But a new party called Cockroach Party has emerged in the country. Let DK Shivakumar become the state president of that party and win 50 seats in Karnataka," Nikhil



said sarcastically.

The JD(S) leader accused DK Shivakumar of repeatedly mocking regional parties, particularly the Janata Dal (Secular), over its electoral strength. "Whenever DK Shivakumar speaks, he ridicules JD(S) saying the party has only 17 seats or one seat. He does not understand the struggles of regional parties. If he is so confident, let him contest under the CJP banner and show his strength," he said.

Nikhil's remarks came in response to statements made by DK Shivakumar during a recent Congress convention in Tumakuru, where the Deputy CM had reportedly mocked former Chief Minister H. D. Kumaraswamy for aspiring to become Chief Minister despite the party's reduced numbers in the Assembly.

Taking the attack further, Nikhil also took a swipe at Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, saying, "Standing at Freedom Park, Siddaramaiah may even release a T-shirt saying 'I am a cockroach.' Looking at the cur-

rent state of Congress in Karnataka itself is worrying."

Responding to DK Shivakumar's earlier remark questioning "Who is Nikhil Kumaraswamy to question me?", the JD(S) youth leader said he had every right to question the government as a citizen of Karnataka. "I am a son of Karnataka soil. I have pride in the state's language, land and water. I pay taxes to this government, and therefore I have every right to question it," he asserted.

Nikhil further said that the people of Karnataka had given Congress 136 seats and the opportunity to form the government by making Siddaramaiah Chief Minister and DK Shivakumar Deputy Chief Minister. "I will continue to raise my voice on behalf of ordinary people of the state. Nobody can stop me," he added. The exchange marks yet another escalation in the growing political confrontation between Congress and JD(S) leaders ahead of future electoral battles in Karnataka.

## Boxing coach booked under POCSO Act

BENGALURU

A 50-year-old boxing coach has been accused of sexually abusing a trainee in the city and threatening the family, police said on Saturday.

The First Information Report, lodged at Sampangiramanagar police station under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, names the coach and details alleged incidents dating from December 4, 2025, through May 22, 2026.

According to the FIR lodged by the 17-year-old girl's mother, on May 17, when her daughter went to Chennai for a boxing competition, the coach called her into his private room and misbehaved with her. The complainant also told police that the coach threatened her against revealing the matter to anyone. According to the FIR, the teenager has trained for about 10 years and began experiencing inappropriate conduct from the coach approximately four years ago, with the behaviour intensifying over the last five to six months.

## Metro Rail between Bengaluru-Tumakuru DPR for before Cabinet soon: HM

BENGALURU

KARNATAKA Home Minister G Parameashwara on Saturday said that a DPR for the proposed Madavara (Bengaluru)-Tumakuru Metro Rail project would be placed before the Cabinet for discussion and further decision-making.

He was speaking to reporters after receiving the Detailed Project Report (DPR) report for the Madavara-Tumakuru Metro Rail project at Vidhana Soudha in the presence of Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh, Home Department Additional Chief Secretary Tushar Girinath and senior officials of Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRC). The distance between Madavara and Tumakuru Metro Rail

project is approximately 50 km. For a long time, efforts had been underway, Parameashwara, who is Tumakuru district in charge minister said, while explaining the progress of the project.

"The CM had earlier said that we would conduct a feasibility study and examine it. Accordingly, around Rs 3.5 crore was spent, and a Hyderabad-based company conducted the feasibility study and submitted it to the government. They strongly stated in the report that it could be done," he said.

The minister said discussions were subsequently held on preparing the DPR and a tender was floated through the metro authorities for the same. "They prepared the DPR, held discussions at their level, and submitted it to the



government today," he said. "The government is preparing a proposal to execute it under the PPP model. The estimated cost is around Rs 20,000 crore," Parameashwara said. He added that the report contains detailed aspects, including the number and location of stations and the alignment along the National Highway corridor. "It will be placed before the Cabinet, after which Expressions of Interest will be invited and tenders will be floated. The process will then begin. We do not yet know who will qualify or who will apply," he said.

## High Court reduces jail term of driver from one year to one day

The convicted had rushed accident victim to hospital who succumbed to his injuries the next day

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BENGALURU

IN a significant observation on humanitarian conduct after road accidents, the High Court of Karnataka has reduced the jail sentence of a driver convicted in a fatal accident case after noting that he did not flee the spot and instead personally shifted the injured victim to hospital in his own car.

Justice V. Srishananda passed the order while hearing a petition filed by

Riyaz Ahmed, a resident of Pachhikere in Dakshina Kannada district. The court modified the one-year imprisonment imposed by a trial court to imprisonment till the rising of the court, effectively reducing the sentence to one day.

The High Court observed that immediately after the accident, the driver had acted responsibly by taking the victim to hospital instead of escaping from the scene. The court considered this conduct as a major mitigating factor while deciding



the quantum of punishment.

The bench also took note of the petitioner's personal circumstances. Records be-

fore the court revealed that Riyaz Ahmed himself later met with another accident and underwent surgery in which a rod was inserted

in his right leg. Due to his physical condition, he is reportedly unable to continue professional driving and is currently doing small jobs for survival.

During the hearing, the court suggested additional compensation for the victim's family as a condition for reducing the sentence. The family members of the deceased agreed to the proposal.

Accordingly, the court directed Riyaz Ahmed to pay an additional compensation of Rs 1 lakh to the wife

and son of the deceased. The amount must be paid in two equal instalments of Rs 50,000 each before June 30. The court further clarified that failure to pay the compensation within the stipulated time would automatically restore the earlier one-year jail sentence imposed by the lower court.

The case dates back to July 15, 2015, when Riyaz Ahmed was driving a car near Panambur Beach Road on National Highway-66 between Mangaluru and Udupi. His vehicle hit

a pedestrian identified as Anand Shetty.

Immediately after the accident, Riyaz and his son shifted the seriously injured Anand Shetty to hospital in the same vehicle. However, the victim succumbed to injuries the following day.

Earlier, a sessions court in Mangaluru had convicted Riyaz Ahmed and sentenced him to one year of simple imprisonment along with a fine of Rs 5,000. Challenging the order, he later approached the High Court seeking relief.