

THE BEACON

PRACTICE NEWS BULLETIN OF THE PG STUDENTS OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

Friday, 16 September 2022 / St. Joseph's University / Vol: 15 Issue: 11 / www.sjcddeptcomm.wordpress.com

Hijab Report: Activists calls for implementation of RTE Afreen Hussain

People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) hosted a panel discussion on the impact of the hijab ban on Karnataka's educational institutions. The discussion was based on PUCL's recently published report on the various issues that Muslim women in the state had to face due to the high court's decision on the hijab ban.

The webinar was conducted on 14th September, and the panel members included Dr. Niranjanaradhya - an educationalist, Kavita Srivastava - national secretary (PUCL), Aiman Khan - an independent researcher, Syeda Saba - an advocate, and Shehzad Shaheen, - a student leader.

The report includes testimonials of several Muslim women who had to face the burden of psychological effects apart from the legal implications of the decision. Dr. Niranjanaradhya, a development educationist, while speaking at the event said, "I feel that this report is extremely timely and it is timely on two counts, first that it engages with the people at large to expose the hidden agenda of the state, particularly when it is headed by a right wing government. Secondly, the report will help the court with concrete evidence from the ground and will help everyone realise the magnitude of the effects that the decision has brought about."

He added that the court must consider the importance of Right to Education and must focus on upholding this fundamental right for all its citizens.

A man who lived by his own terms

Sutapa Dhara

"Dead objects are still alive, living people are often already dead," said filmmaker Jean-Luc Godard. The Swiss-French filmmaker passed away at the age of 91 in Rolle, Switzerland.

The demise of renowned filmmaker Jean-Luc Godard puts today's film industry in a state of mourning. The nonagenarian was one of the most significant innovators the medium had ever known. As a result of his work on films like Breathless and Contempt, he came to rep-

CNC meets governor, seeks protection

Siddhant Garud & AS Mandira

BENGALURU: "We met with the government to ensure the protection of our rights, ours is a micro minority, we have helped immensely in nation building, so the least the government can do is to make sure all our land rights and community protections are in place," said Codava National Council (CNC) president N U Naachappa Codava while talking about his meeting with the Chairman of the Karnataka Backward Classes Commission, Sri Jayaprakash Hegde.

Codavas are a micro-minority community with just a population of one lakh, living in Coorg for centuries. The community is asking for protection of their rights, for a change in the status of their community and for their inclusion in the Scheduled Tribes list. The Codavas are currently included in the gen-



A meeting of the Codava National Council

Special Arrangement

eral category.

"A thorough ethnographical survey and study has to be done of our area and the rest of the country. (We) demand this survey is our right. We need to make sure that the people understand how Codavas are native to Coorg," he added, while explaining some

of their demands.

"We are demanding for our tribe to be included in the ST list, our gun exemption right to be protected without any hindrances, and the Kodava Tak to be included in our Constitution."

The commission report was delayed by the Govt.

and this was when CNC approached the High Court through their Advocate Sri Ballachanda Bolliappa. Accordingly, the High Court delivered the landmark judgement pronounced by Justice Sri Krishna Dixit on 08 December 2021. But the 2021 judgement has not been im-

plemented yet.

In the petition filed, CNC had stated, "Our lack of constitutional knowledge and ignorance of political sagacity; these weaknesses are exploited by radical elements. Particularly right-wing political party, who took undue advantage of Codava Race and used them as their mercenaries. These political parties didn't give space to think about constitutional empowerment. Especially, the non-Codava Law maker exploited them for his dirty political game. Their allegiance transformed from nation and right wing party into non - Codava law maker."

Even though the president said that the fight had been going on for more than thirty years, he is still hopeful that his community will get the freedom they deserve. We wish to solve this peacefully, reaffirming the values of the Indian Constitution, he said.

HP takes a step towards inclusivity for LGBTQIA+

Narayan B

BENGALURU: Hewlett Packard (HP) has opened its doors to the LGBTQIA+ community by reserving seats for individuals from these communities for technical support roles in the company.

While speaking to The Beacon about this opportunity, Nidhra, a counselling psychologist said, "A student of mine who is aware that I'm queer and is associated with a lot of queer communities reached out to me. This student is currently working for HP I suppose. Of course these reservations will help people from the community but this



Representational Image

extoday.com

is again very stratified because I remember how this reservation is for 20 individuals who have some training in technical support."

Nidhra further stated that if organisations are going to make reservations, they must also keep in mind that they are inviting individuals who

may also be marginalised, who have faced various kinds of challenges in acquiring a job and even acquiring educational qualifications. "Hence it is also their responsibility to invest in bridging the gap in skills and knowledge that is required for these new recruits to be able to perform

well," she added.

When asked how this will benefit the community, they added, "This means we have more representation, This is a win for the entire population at large, as grassroots level changes are great but come at a cost and are often ignored easily with fewer voices, faces and representation of people who will question the authorities."

Nidhra added that community being welcomed was good but this also meant that organisations will have to address the norms rooted in patriarchy and capitalism, present in these organisations.

Will KMF hike milk prices?

Pushparaj C

BENGALURU: Common citizens and civil society organisations have condemned the Karnataka Milk Federation's (KMF) proposal to hike the price of milk by 3 rupees and have stated that this will affect the most vulnerable members of society.

Earlier this week, the KMF had submitted a proposal for the hike due to rising input costs to CM Basavaraj Bommai.

"The increase in price of milk in current conditions is a serious issue which will cause malnutrition. Families living below the poverty line will be affected badly," AICCTU member Maitreyi said while speaking to The Beacon.

Umar, an IT programme manager, spoke about how increase in the price of milk will also affect the prices of other products since milk is a raw material for many other products.

"We are facing lots of issues. Food, which is a basic necessity, is taxed and we are unable to buy many products because prices have increased while our salaries have remained the same," noted Srivastava, who has a two-year-old son.

Inflation adds to common man's woes

Sudha Ankita Ekka

Shopkeepers and consumers raised their concerns as food prices have been on the rise over the past month. The soaring food costs have also resulted in the rise of India's retail inflation from 6.71% in July to 7% in August.

Sunil, a shopkeeper said, "It's very difficult for us to tell consumers that the increase in price is not done by us but by the government. Often, they will blame us for increasing the price of a product. Due to inflation sometimes it gets very difficult for us to sell a particular product."

Consumers also raised concerns regarding the increase in food prices and said that it's very difficult for a middle-class family to manage all the expenses with this increase in the price of products.

"I am a housewife and have to manage all expenses. With this increase in food prices, all our budgeting will be affected. An increase in price directly or indirectly affects the consumer. But for a healthy body we have to purchase good food," said Anushka from Bihar.