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Narcotics deal via India Post

Prajwal S K

BENGALURU :To contain the drug trafficking, the Bengaluru police launched a large-scale drive on the drug peddlers in the city on Saturday.

The Bengaluru city police are actively going after drug suppliers leading to the arrests of several offenders. They have caught 130 grams of charas worth six and a half lakhs, which were being sent through India Post on Friday, February 3.

Authorities are keeping a close watch on individuals involved in illicit activities, to rein in on drug networks. Talking to Beacon, B Dayanand, Commissioner of Police, Bengaluru, said, "Earlier, drugs were sent through private couriers, but this time, Hrithik Raj tried to avoid the police by using India Post. Adit Sarvottam from Rishikesh sent him 130 grams of charas worth six and a half lakhs through India Post. The CCB police, unaware of this, conducted a raid. Raj's practice of promptly locking, opening, and checking the post upon receiving it has been revealed. The CCB police, who arrested Hrithik Raj, are now investigating based on information from Adit Sarvottam."

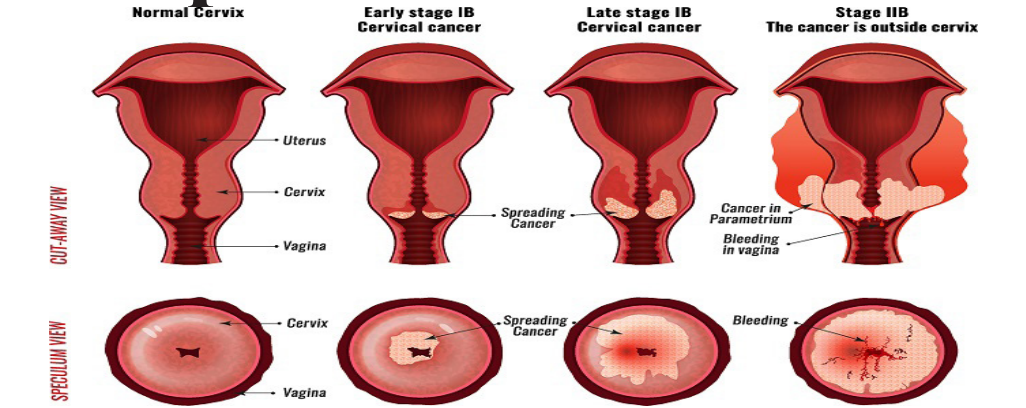
To keep the city drug-free, the city police are hunting down drug dealers. However, the number of people selling drugs doesn't seem to be going down. They are using different ways to supply. "A case has been registered at Hulimavu police station, and the investigation is ongoing. Surprisingly, those who used private couriers for drug supply have switched to using India Post," said an official.

Fake news spurs cervical cancer alert

Prajwal S K

With the recent fake news of the demise of model actor Poonam Pandey at the age of 32 due to cervical cancer, attention is once again drawn to preventive measures women should be aware of, as well as the signs, symptoms, and available treatment options for this aggressive disease.

The controversy began with a highly contentious incident as the "fake death" announcement stirred intense emotions among many people. Online users and several celebrities criticised it as 'ridiculous', 'disgraceful', and 'a new low. This response unfolded after actor-model Poonam Pandey reappeared on social media a day following her team's claim that she had succumbed to cervical cancer. Cervical cancer is the sec-



Stages of cervical cancer

ond most common type of cancer diagnosed in women in India and the treatment for which received a push in the Budget 2024. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday announced vaccinations for girls against cervical cancer. "Our government will encourage vaccination for girls in the age group of 9 to 14 years for the prevention of cervical

cancer," the finance minister said in her Budget speech.

What is cervical cancer?

This form of cancer originates in the cells lining the cervix, the lower part of the uterus. It is mainly caused by persistent infection with high-risk strains of HPV, a sexually transmitted infection. Doctors call it the 'silent killer', as it can progress

without noticeable symptoms in the early stages. Women may experience abnormal vaginal bleeding, like bleeding between periods or after intercourse, or vaginal discharge that is often "foul-smelling or blood-tinged."

A gynaecologist with expertise in the field, Gayathri Joshi, discussed the symptoms and preventive measures for cervical cancer in a conversation

with The Beacon. "Many people don't know they have cervical cancer until it is too late, since the condition only begins to exhibit symptoms after the cancer starts to spread. Some early-stage symptoms include heavier vaginal bleeding during or in between periods, strong-smelling or watery vaginal discharges. When cervical cancer spreads to other parts of the body, termed advanced cancer, it can cause bleeding and pain during bowel movements and urination.

"It is important to stop smoking and to use condoms during sex to reduce the risk of contracting the disease. The chance of survival is determined strongly by the stage at diagnosis, which can range from as low as 7-8% during the advanced stages of cervical cancer to as high as 73% when the cancer is localised," she added.

Central grant dispute stirs political drama

Prajwal S K

BENGALURU :Several members of the BJP gathered outside the residence of Congress MP DK Suresh on Sunday to protest his recent statement that southern states would be forced to demand a separate nation if the 'injustice' in the distribution of funds is not rectified by the Centre.

The BJP Yuva Morcha laid siege to DK Suresh's residence from Gayatri Vihara, screaming slogans of 'Vande Mataram', 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai', and 'Down Down DK Suresh'. The agitators were stopped by police, and over 35 BJP members, including Anil Shetty, Prashant, Sandeep Ravi, and Pratap, were arrested.

After the Central govern-



BJP protestors being arrested by police

ment's interim budget was presented, MP DK Suresh said that Karnataka was being treated unfairly by the central government. "No grant has been released in this budget. All the grants are being given to the states of North India. If this keeps repeating, then a separate nation of South

India would be created." This statement was strongly condemned by BJP leaders.

Speaking to the media, Suresh stated, "In a democracy, everyone has the right to protest and speak, no one can stop them. The BJP is twisting my statement. I never said that the country should

be divided. BJP leaders are trying to misrepresent my statement. The media should show my statement. I don't know whether it is the media's fault, the BJP's fault, or mine."

DCM DK Sivakumar alleged that the central government's grant reduction is 100 percent true. Talking about the BJP's protest, "The country will run even if there are no educated people, but there should be intelligent people. There was no single meeting held on drought by the 27 elected MPs of Karnataka. But for the first time, under the leadership of Siddaramaiah, farmers of Karnataka received Rs 2000 as relief funds. There is no doubt that injustice has been done to Karnataka. I am ready to take the entire state government to Delhi in protest."

KCET application woes continue

Prajwal S K

BENGALURU :The server crash of the Karnataka Examination Authority on Sunday sparked student protests across the state.

Students are unable to apply for KCET as the applications should be filed offline. Several students are travelling across the state to nearby towns to upload documentation due to the KEA website crash.

Nagarjuna Pu College student Anupriya sharing her ordeal said, "We have not been able to apply for the last four to five days due to server issues. February 10 is the deadline for submitting the online application. The board is not prepared to further extend the deadline. For the students to apply for KCET, we request that the board address the matter as soon as possible."

"This has also happened in the past with the KEA website. The simultaneous use of SATS software is what led to the server crash. Each year, such instances are reported to the Education Board. However, as a long-term solution, no strict measures have yet been implemented," said Ananth Prabhu, a cyber expert.

New guidelines, safer residents

Prajwal S K

BENGALURU : For better safety and security in Paying Guest (PG) accommodations across Bengaluru, the Bengaluru Police have issued a set of guidelines for PG owners. The action is being taken in an attempt to control PG facilities and stop illicit activity.

By Sections 34(d) and 70 of the Karnataka Police Act, Bengaluru police published a list of rules on Friday for guests staying in paid accommodations.

Paying guest proprietors must obtain the required licence (trade licence) from

the BBMP. Speaking to The Beacon, B Dayanand, Commissioner of Police, Bengaluru, said, "The guidelines are issued to emphasise that all new arrivals at PGs should have their identity cards, recent photos, and mobile numbers taken, as well as information about their blood relatives. The installation of CCTV cameras and the implementation of all necessary safety measures are vital. PG owners must perform a background check as well as police verification. We also strictly instruct PG owners not to

permit the consumption or storage of narcotics on their premises. This measure is aimed at curbing illegal activities and ensuring the well-being of residents."

"In the case of PG accommodations hosting foreign nationals, owners must provide information to the local police station using Form C under the Registration of Foreigners Rules of 1939. This measure is aimed at monitoring and regulating the stay of foreign residents. Strict action will be taken against the PG owners who violate the guidelines," he added.

B'luru's double-decker revival

Prajwal S K

BENGALURU : In an attempt to provide succour to Bengaluru, known for its notoriety of ugly traffic bottlenecks, the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTTC) is all set to bring back double-decker buses.

On Saturday, the BMTTC identified three routes—Majestic to Shivajinagar, Majestic to Attibele, and Vijayanagar to Kalasipalya—for operating double-decker buses.

Speaking to The Beacon, a senior officer said that approval was granted

on Saturday to initiate the tender process for leasing 10 double-decker AC electric buses under a gross cost contract (GCC) model. "Unlike standard electric buses, which can hold between 33 and 40 passengers at a time, each double-decker can hold about 65 people. These buses will be driven by private operators, and they will be paid on a per-kilometre basis. This is an initiative taken by BMTTC to boost public transportation in Bengaluru, which ranks among the 10 most congested cities in the world."

Editors : Prajwal S K

If anyone has any feedback / complaints, reports / photographs or are conducting events, please email us at : beacon@sjc.ac.in