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RCB gears up for IPL 2024

Hemalatha Y N

BENGALURU: On Tuesday, RCB captains Faf du Plessis, Smriti Mandhana, and batting icon Virat Kohli revealed the new name of the Royal Challengers cricket team - Royal Challengers Bengaluru.

Unbox RCB 2024 ushered in a new era for the team, as new jerseys and a logo were launched featuring the revamped name of the team. Former RCB player, R Vinay Kumar was added to the team's Hall of Fame. To add to the spectacle of the event, fans were treated to a series of entertaining music performances by renowned DJ Alan Walker and other popular artists such as Raghu Dixit, Neeti Mohan, Brodha V, and Jordindian.

Kohli, who will start his 17th season with the RCB in IPL 2024, said "It's a dream of mine to know what it feels like winning an IPL trophy. I will be here, part of the team that wins the trophy for the first time." RCB is all set to begin their Indian Premier League (IPL) season with an opening match against Chennai Super Kings on Friday, followed by their first home game in Bengaluru on March 25.

Activists file complaints against Surya & others

Kushal Varma

BENGALURU: On grounds of propagating hate between Hindus and Muslims, a delegation from 'Campaign against Hate Speech', sought action against Tejasvi Surya, PC Mohan and Shobha Karandlaje of the Bharatiya Janata Party, on Wednesday.

On 18 March, Monday, CCTV footage of a physical altercation between a shopkeeper playing 'Hanuman Chalisa' during azaan and six other men went viral. The incident was reported near Siddana Layout. This footage has been given a political and religious overtone by a few politicians.

On the same day, referring to the incident, Surya tweeted on X: "With such political backing available to Jihadis, naturally such incidents of crime against Hindus have risen in our State."



BJP MP Tejasvi Surya detained on Sunday during a protest in Nagarathpete

Mint

It is important to note that Surya is also the BJP candidate for Bangalore South, for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections.

To seek action against him, the delegation met with District Election Officer Tushar Girinath. A complaint was filed for violation of section 123(a) Representation of People Act, Model Code of Conduct and sections

153(a), 295(a) 505(2) of the Indian Penal Code.

Referring to his post on X, the complaint read, "It is pertinent to note the wide reach of Mr Surya's statements, having 1 million views, 587 comments, 5.4k retweets and 13 likes. He commands a following of 1.3 million persons. Thus, his statements have wide-reaching consequences on voters, communal harmony,

and the elections."

The delegation also filed a complaint regarding the unlawful rally held on 19 March, under the leadership of Tejasvi Surya, Shobha Karandlaje and PC Mohan. It alleges that through this rally these leaders attempted to disrupt communal harmony and cause hatred against the Muslim community, violating sections 153(a), 295(a), 505(2) of the

Indian Penal Code.

Since the rally took place outside Freedom Park, it is also in clear violation of The Licensing and Regulation of Protests, Demonstrations, and Protest Marches Order, 2021.

The MP referred to the assailants as Jihadis.

The complaints also highlight that such statements are factually wrong and incendiary in nature.

It states, "This incident (Siddana Layout altercation) is being investigated in FIR No. 49/2024 before the Halasur Gate Police Station filed by the victim. It is pertinent to note that the contents of the FIR and complaint clearly do not mention that the attack had any religious overtones."

The FIR also reveals that of the six accused, two are Hindus which implies that the altercation was not communal in nature.

Domestic workers union calls for government action

Sadhika Dasgupta

BENGALURU: With the election coming up, the government must take action to support disadvantaged communities, opined Radha M, a member of the Domestic Workers' Rights Union.

The Domestic Workers' Rights Union decided to combine issues of women in elections and celebration of the Women's Day on March 20, Wednesday, said Geetha Menon, founder of Stree Jagruti Samiti. Menon said the meeting was organised to listen to the working women devoid of rights.



Domestic workers celebrating Women's Day

Sadhika Dasgupta

"I am a widow and working as a domestic helper and I earn only 4,500 monthly," Manju, a member of the union explained. She also said that she needed to raise funds for her son's medical treatment. "The money is insufficient,

but I can't work in more than one house daily, as I am old. I have health problems too," she added. Manju also explained that they were never recognised in society and expressed satisfaction over celebrating Women's Day.

"We want domestic workers to stand for their rights and vote according to their choice," Menon said. Menon elaborated on the government's responsibility, and said, "For a government, it's a small thing such as to pass a law or a framework which can turn the domestic workers from servants into workers."

She added that the meeting was to increase awareness about the importance of this election, beyond local issues. She stressed that the government should not let domestic workers feel neglected and devalued.

TEJAS'24: Shift 3's cultural carnival

Shoab Shakeel

CAMPUS: TEJAS'24 is an exclusive cultural fest to provide a platform for students of shift three at St Joseph's University to showcase their talents and have a recreational engagement, said Professor Reshma Vijayan, a faculty coordinator of TEJAS 24.

TEJAS is an annual inter-class cultural fest hosted between March 18 to March 23, 2024, with the theme "In This Together". It represents the collective commitment towards unity, collaboration, and shared aspirations.

"TEJAS was started because our university hosts many events during the day, and most of our students are working personnel. So the participation of shift 3 students is smaller in number. Therefore, this platform was initiated for shift three students to participate more," said Reshma a faculty member.

The idea was to bring about a change in shift three where everyone has recreational activities, and everything around has a positive and colourful atmosphere, said Prajwal Tenginkai student organiser TEJAS'24.

TEDx: Inspiring changes through dialogue

Kessiah Joseph

CAMPUS: Under the theme of looking through the prism, TEDx at St Joseph's University aims to provide a lens through which audiences can explore a spectrum of perspectives.

The event of TEDx focused on bringing together speakers who share their first-hand experiences, shedding light on issues that resonate with the audience on a personal level.

TEDx events have become a platform where individuals from diverse backgrounds converge to share ideas, challenge norms, and inspire change. The event not only



TEDx/SJU

Dishant

embraced inclusivity but also delved into unexplored territories of knowledge and discourse about information.

While speakers had the opportunity to share their insights and experiences, it was the attendees

who truly reaped the rewards. "The event provides a larger benefit to both the audience and the speakers as well. The intellectual crowd of St Joseph's University, being the prime source of knowledge, benefits from being a part of the event as it helps in shaping minds, sparking conversations, and inspiring change," said Vanshika, co-licensor of the event.

By engaging with a diverse range of topics and perspectives, audience members were able to broaden their understanding, gain new insights, and embark on a journey of intellectual

Down Syndrome: Breaking barriers

Nidhi B

BENGALURU: Breaking stereotypes, challenging misconceptions and increasing inclusion and awareness about persons with disorders is the main aim of World Down Syndrome Day which is on March 21. "Down Syndrome is caused by a combination of structural and non-functional defects in the 21st chromosome," says Roopashree K, a psychologist and lecturer. People with Down Syndrome exhibit several physical signs, such as almond or crescent-shaped eyes, thick tongues, short stature, and limbs, making distinguishing them from those

without the condition easy. Not all individuals with Down Syndrome are completely intellectually impaired, however, they still require ongoing care and can benefit from vocational training and self-employment, she added. Speaking to The Beacon, Roopashree pointed out the misconceptions about individuals with Down Syndrome, such as the idea of them being burdensome to their families and society due to their appearance, whereas, in reality, they are genuinely kind and affectionate people.