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National U-12 Chess: Ethan Vaz surges, Shriyana shines

Saishyam Srikanth

MANDYA : Goa's second seed, Ethan Vaz has blazed his way to a 6/6 start at the National U-12 Chess Championship. Vaz is in the sole lead followed by top seed Arjun Adireddy from Telangana and Maharashtra's Vijay Saraogi who share 2nd place with a score of 5.5. The Goan is the only player to have won all his games in the tournament and is set to meet Vijay Saraogi in the 7th round. Meanwhile, in the girls' section, Karnataka's Shriyana Mallya shares the first place along with Delhi's Prishita Gupta and Aadhya Jain. All three of them have a score of 5.5 and the battle between Prishita Gupta and Shriyana Mallya in the 7th round promises to be a thriller. In the 6th round, Ethan Vaz was facing Bihar's sixth seed Mohammad Reyan, but managed to easily brush aside his opponent in just 24 moves to maintain his perfect record. In contrast, Shriyana Mallya had to play a marathon of 84 moves before she finally managed to take the full point home. Girls top seed Shubhi Gupta from Uttar Pradesh fought back after she suffered a shock loss to Aadhya Jain in the 4th round. She is currently on a score of 5/6 and is part of the trailing pack in the women's section. India's next U-12 girls and the open champion will be crowned at the end of the 11th round on Thursday and will walk away with a cash prize of Rs. 80,000 for their exploits.

'Journalism is our religion'

Afreen Hussain



Satish Kumar addressing the PG students

Afreen Hussain

BENGALURU: "A religion," said BS Satish Kumar, the Deputy Chief of Bureau at The Hindu, as he began to address the PG

students of the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism at SJC. Throughout the session,

Mr. Kumar spoke on a variety of subjects which included the current political situation in the state of Karnataka, the mediatization of politics, and the ethics that a journalist must follow while doing political reporting. He provided an insight into political journalism from different angles with examples from the grass-roots. Drawing an important lesson out of Gandhi's career as a journalist, he said, Mahatma was a freedom fighter who used political communication to the hilt. "Gandhi through his myriad of writings in the newspapers reached millions of illiterate masses through the opinion leaders." Sathish Kumar drew the attention of the students to the multi-disciplinary characteristic of the

profession, explaining how he uses agricultural journalism to understand political reporting better. "We need to understand from various fields, and represent it to the people. For instance, in agriculture reporting we need to be a bridge between the farmers and the market. For this, we need to understand how the commodity markets function." He described the dependence of people on the media to learn about politics which he termed as 'mediatization of politics'. "The perception about the politics and the leaders are built by the media". Politicians and political parties lookout for what is known as "image makeover" through the use of media, he said.

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Traffic chokes as the city bounces back to normalcy

Pushparaj C

BENGALURU: The southern Indian tech hub of Bengaluru is home to the largest number of blue chip companies which has made it a preferred destination for the job seekers. However, post-Covid and its accompanying lockdowns, when finally the city has sprung back to hectic economic life offline, the traffic nightmare has started haunting its citizens once again. An Oracle employee, who commutes daily from his of-

fice from Bannerghatta Road to Kammanahalli, said, "It takes close to 1.5 hours to travel the distance hence I ensure to leave early." K.S. Krishnappa, an assistant sub-inspector (ASI) with 30 years of experience, currently assigned at Frazer Town mentioned, "The traffic will continue to increase due to the re-opening of schools, IT companies, and other sectors. During the pandemic there was no pollution, but now the



Bengaluru traffic

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increase in pollution and temperature is causing more problems to the environment." He further added, "Police are

working to manage traffic flow by reducing two lanes to one, diverting vehicles, and by planning for the flyovers."

'Shed your religious identity, remember you are a journalist'

Afreen Hussain

"They say that wildfire spreads fast but I've learned that communal fire spreads faster. Therefore it is the duty of journalists to be unbiased while reporting, to follow the ethics of journalism to preserve and protect harmony in society," said Satish Kumar BS, the Deputy Chief of Bureau at The Hindu. Addressing the PG students of the Institute of Communication and Media Studies on the subject Political Journalism and Beyond the Rhetoric, he stressed the importance of shedding subjectivity and bias borne out of one's belonging to a community. "A friend of ours who has committed a murder shall not be protected just because he is our friend. Similarly, a person from the community which I belong, shall not be protected if he has indulged in a unlawful activity." I might be a Muslim; this will help me better understand the status of minorities today and represent their pain in a better way. But while doing so, I will do it not as a member of the community but as a journalist whose duty is to report the facts," he added.

SJC students impart diversified learning

Sanjana Anand

The Spandana Foundation organised a ten-day camp at St. Joseph's College for children from Shantinagar slums. The summer camp, by Fr. Arun Luis SJ from Ashirvad, Nisha Ninan from Community Cafe, Ms. Sudakshina from Rotary, and Mr. Manohar from CARE started on the 9th of April for about 80 students. This initiative was taken to inculcate all-round development, create interest

and impart knowledge apart from what they were getting at their schools. They were taken to the physics lab, and telescope dome, to show them how scientific instruments work. PG students at SJC voluntarily taught the children. "It's easier to teach children who are capable of learning things quickly, but this is different, these children are interested but need more attention and individual

care," said Amoghavarsha, a student volunteer. Apart from these, they also have art and craft, health and hygiene, and yoga classes. "We started teaching these kids in November 2021. They have regular classes from 5 pm-7 pm. But now that they have summer holidays, we have organized this ten-day camp from 9 am-4 pm," said R. Manohar, co-ordinator of Spandana.

Infrastructure upgradation at full swing: FST dept gets 3 new labs

Subadra Sarath

With the offline classes resuming in full swing the departments at SJC are expanding their capacity to deliver the state-of-the-art infrastructure facility and pedagogy to its students. Food Science and Technology Department at the campus witnessed the inauguration of several new laboratories. A Food Chemistry Lab, a Food Processing Lab, a Sensory Evaluation Lab, and also a Food and Nutrition Lab were inaugurated

by Fr. Dr Xavier Savarimuthu S.J and Fr. Dr Roshan Castelino S.J on April 11. The labs are on the same floor and are closer to each other. The space where the new labs are situated used to house a library for the PG block. Now after the shifting of the library to admin. block this space is utilised for the laboratories. "This lab will help you to work with your whole potential and helps you to work towards your goal," said, Fr. Dr Roshan Castelino S.J.