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Sec 377, 3 years on: sees more change?

Pavithra Prabhu

BENGALURU: The Supreme Court of India on September 6, 2018, declared Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code as a violation of India's fundamental rights. On the 3rd anniversary of this historical verdict, The Beacon spoke to members of the LGBTQ+ community about challenges they faced while looking for job opportunities.

Mo, an Ahmedabad resident working at U&I, a non-profit organization said, "I was not selected for a job interview because of the fact that I was queer. In many places where I was interviewed, I [couldn't] express my gender and I was supposed to dress like a 'man' because my gender is 'man'." He added that it was very hard for him to not express himself back then. "But now, the organisation I work for accepts me for who I am. They use my right pronouns and let me express my gender and sexual identity. Now I don't have to focus on hiding who I am anymore," they said.

Rashmi, a Therapist and a board member of Global Concern India and Samudra Trust, shared her experience, "Today, the scenario has changed as there is more acceptance; a beautiful step forward," she said.

SJC sparks change through campaign

Anna Mariam Ittyerah

CAMPUS: On account of World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD), on September 10, awareness programmes are conducted by the association floated by the department of psychology known as Consilium. The association has planned a weeklong campaign called Survivor September this year. This campaign is to help students learn more about suicide prevention by holding events, activities, and panel discussions through virtual mode.

The campaign seeks to raise awareness about suicide, provide support to those who are struggling and stand in solidarity with survivors.

When asked about the



Representational Image

#SurvivorSeptember

outcomes, President of the association, Ancy Wilson said, "Our main goal is to let people who might be alone, or suffering know that they aren't alone in this, and to be

aware that they can reach out for help at any time and that it is okay not to be okay. We also want to keep people aware of it as there are still many out there who don't

take things like this seriously."

This year's theme is 'Creating Hope Through Action.' With the Survivor September campaign, the

association hopes to encourage and give support to the people who need it. Through the week, the association hosts events like an open mic session featuring the college WMA (Western Music Association), a panel discussion, and a session with professor Anup Jacob, a faculty member of the Psychology department, on creating hope through action and techniques on suicide gatekeeping.

Angelin Jose, the Vice President of Consilium, mentioned how one day won't be enough in addressing an issue this big. "Personally, I feel that talking about suicide and its tendencies will cut down and remove the stigma revolving around it," she said.

Fans mourn over Harding's demise

Megha Bhattacharjee

Former singer of British-Irish girl band 'Girls Aloud' Sarah Harding passed away at the age of 39 on Sunday, September 5, having been diagnosed with breast cancer a year prior. Her mother announced the demise of her daughter in an Instagram post on Sunday morning.

"She was a bright shining star and I hope that's how she can be remembered instead," she wrote. Harding rose to fame with the popular girl



Sarah Harding

Instagram/Sarah Harding

band 'Girls Aloud' in the early 2000s. She announced in August 2020 that she had

been diagnosed with breast cancer which had spread to other parts of her body.

Celebrities, colleagues, and fans mourned her passing all over social media.

"I loved Girls Aloud as a child and I loved Harding in it. This is really sad," read the comment of an Indian fan. "She was such a talented singer. Gone too soon," added another fan.

"The death of Sarah Harding should make us all aware of breast cancer and its treatment. We've lost too many people to this disease," said Avipriti Roy, a medical student and a fan of Harding's.

KPCC slams BJP for poor execution of NEP

Sudarshani

Karnataka Congress on Monday took to Twitter to slam the state government for its hurried implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020. The opposition party also accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of turning Karnataka into its laboratory.

Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) also blamed the government for ruining the future of the students. "With no premeditation or government's clarity, there is no framework for schools and colleges. By turning the Karnataka state into a laboratory with its hasty implementation of the National Education Policy, BJP has been ruining the future of students," tweeted Karnataka Congress.

In August 2021, Karnataka became the first state in the country to implement the NEP. Union Minister for Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Dharmendra Pradhan virtually launched the new policy on August 24, 2021.

India's Best-Ever Paralympics

Alwin Benjamin Soji

The Tokyo Paralympics concluded on Sunday, September 5, 2021 with India having their best-ever show gathering 19 medals including 5 Gold medals.

India participated in 11 Paralympic Games and had a combined medal tally of 12 after the 2016 Rio Paralympics and having won 19 medals at Tokyo means that India won more medals than what they won in all Paralympics combined. The Gold medallists include Avani Lekhara and Manish

TOKYO 2020
PARALYMPIC GAMES



Tokyo Paralympics logo

Narwal in Shooting, Pramod Bhagat and Krishna Nagar in Badminton, and Sumit Antil in Javelin Throw.

The Silver medallists include Suhas Yathiraj in Badminton, Bhavina Patel in Table Tennis, Singhraj Adhana in Shooting, Yogesh Kathuniya in Discus Throw, Devendra Jhajharia in Javelin Throw,

Praveen Kumar, Mariyappan Thangavelu, and Nishad Kumar in High jump.

The Bronze medallists include Manoj Sardar in Badminton, Harvinder Singh in Archery, Sharad Kumar in High jump, Sundar Singh Gurjar in Javelin Throw, Avani Lekhara, and Singhraj Adhana in Shooting.

IPC

Calicut district in Kerala diagnoses with Nipah again

Worinphi Ronra Shimray

CALICUT: A 12 year-old-boy from Pazhoor, Calicut, succumbed to the Nipah virus on Sunday, September 5, marking the third instance of the same infection in the last 3 years.

As per the Kerala Health ministry, a total of 188 persons who were in contact with the deceased have been isolated, including the parents.

Following regular Covid protocol like washing hands and sanitizing will help prevent further infections,

said Dr. Sheetal Joy, an epidemiologist from Kerala. "The fluids of an infected person should be discarded carefully with the highest precaution in hospitals," she added.

According to WHO, the virus is transmitted to people from animals, and also through direct contact.

It poses an average mortality rate between 40 and 75 percent.

There are currently no drugs or vaccines specific for Nipah virus infection and, thus, prevention is the only way.