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## Afraid of polls, Chandrababu sails with Congress?



By Our Political Correspondent

**T**here was no doubt whatsoever that the recent No Confidence Motion moved against the two year old Kiran Kumar Reddy led Congress Government was bound to be lost in the Assembly. The motion, first moved by Telangana Rashttra Samithi (TRS) and later backed by YSR Congress Party led by YS Jagan Mohan Reddy was destined to fail, as the main opposition party; Telugu Desam Party (TDP) that has a strong presence of 85 MLAs has decided not to support it. Whether the TDP lost a golden opportunity to expose the much defamed Congress government headed by Kiran Reddy will be known only after some time. However, if only Chandrababu Naidu, the Leader of the Opposition in the state assembly --- had backed the motion, by now there would have been a serious political instability in the state of Andhra Pradesh and the fate of Kiran Kumar Reddy would have been simply pathetic to state the least. But that has not happened, despite the government losing majority in the Assembly.

*Contd. on page 2*



Officially, the Congress has now only 142 MLAs in a House with an effective strength of 292 MLAs in the house that has a total of 294 members. Two MLAs Suman Rathode (TDP) and Janardhan Thatraj (Congress) have no voting right, due to stay ordered by the Courts. Even by including the casting vote of the Speaker, the Congress was way short of 147 votes to assert credible majority (just

above the half way mark). Since the No Confidence Motion exposed the real numbers, the ruling party has mustered only 142 on Saturday. It shows it has no credible majority and is five votes short of actual majority to continue in power without depending on others; although technically it can be said to enjoy a surviving majority.

In normal circumstances, the main Opposition party would demand dismissal of the government and stake claims to form a next government. The TDP did the same thing, last time when a no-confidence motion moved by it was lost in December 2010. The party MLAs marched to the Raj Bhavan and demanded dismissal of the Kiran government. But not this time, despite the fact that general elections are just a year away. Chandrababu Naidu, who issued a whip to all his TDP MLAs to be in the House during the voting on the no-confidence motion himself, was absent and was away on his Padayatra in West Godavari district. Even after knowing that the government got just 142 votes in its favour, Naidu kept quiet revealing his fears of a poll debacle if early elections become inevitable on account of assembly getting dissolved.

Interestingly, for the first time in the past fifty years, a minority Congress government in Andhra Pradesh was bailed out by main Opposition party (TDP) in a No-Confidence Motion that was put to vote at 1 o'clock in the midnight on (Saturday) 16th March, 2013. Perhaps, this is the first time that TDP officially came to the rescue of Congress government since it was founded by late NT Rama Rao in 1982. Every one knows that the TDP's only ideology has been an anti-congress platform. Why did the TDP backed out from opposing the ruling congress party? Is it afraid of the surging influence of Jagan's YSR Congress Party in Andhra and TRS in the Telangana regions?

Only 142 MLAs voted against the No-Trust Motion, while 58 MLAs voted for it and 64 members remained neutral. As many as 30 MLAs including a minister were absent from the House, when the motion was put to vote after a 14 hour long debate. Congress tried desperately to save its face by wooing some opposition MLAs to its side. It has succeeded only in getting TDP rebel MLA S Venugopalachary.

More than the lucky survival of Kiran government, what caught everyone's attention through this entire episode is the prevailing strength of YSR Congress in the Assembly. If the party has 17 MLAs who won on its symbol officially, another 16 MLAs – 9 from Congress and 6 from TDP – defied their whips and voted along with YSR Congress. So, now the YSRCP

has the support of 33 MLAs.

Even in the past too, YSR Congress has attracted 17 MLAs during a similar no-confidence motion moved by TDP in 2010 December and 15 of them were re-elected on its ticket later. "If Chandrababu Naidu joined hands with us, this Kiran Kumar Reddy government would have been removed by now," YSR Congress legislature party leader Vijayamma told the media on Saturday.

TRS which too has 17 MLAs could get the support of one more MLA K Hareeshwar Reddy (TDP Rebel), but it could not secure the backing of another TDP rebel S Venugopalachary, who was wooed by the CM in the last minute. BJP's 3 MLAs, CPI's 4 MLAs and CPM's lone member were among those who voted for the no-trust motion, but MIM with 7 MLAs abstained from voting leaving many political observers to suspect some underhand deal to bail out the Owasi brothers facing criminal charges for their alleged hate speeches.

Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee president Botsa Satyanarayana ruled out Kiran government quitting as the ruling party was set to seek the disqualification of the 9 MLAs who voted against the government. "I came to know that TDP too is going to seek disqualification of their rebel MLAs in a day or two. Then, the effective strength of the House will also go down," said Satyanarayana, who is also a minister in the state cabinet.

### TDP in crisis:

The worst hit in the no-confidence vote is the TDP and its leader Chandrababu Naidu, who has been going on a Padayatra since October last year and accusing the ruling congress of having failed on all counts. But the same Naidu, who only a few days ago called upon people to "cut down the Congress government with a sickle and axe", could not muster enough courage to move or support a no-confidence motion moved by other opposition parties as he is scared of facing elections to the assembly at this stage. Naidu seems to be dreading early polls for reasons best known to him.

His no-confidence motion against the Kiran government two years ago cost him dearly. When the by-elections were held to 17 assembly seats, after the Congress MLAs who had defied their





party whip were disqualified, TDP drew a zero. Much worse, the party lost deposits in many places while retaining it in only in some places.

In fact, Naidu has not won any by-elections ever since YSR Congress was formed two years ago. TDP is at the receiving end in Telangana from TRS and it is the victim of the onslaught from Jagan in Seemandhra region. Precisely, this is the reason why Naidu refused to take risk another time and force elections to the Assembly.

The root cause of the TDP's problem is nothing but the confusion of Naidu on various issues. Being the CM for nine years, Chandrababu Naidu thinks that he can come back to power on the strength of his trade mark good governance and efficient administration. In the last two years, he has been making promises left and right; and has no hesitation to make somersaults of his previous decisions which booted him out of power.

For example, he considered government employees as "lazy bones" but now he promises them full protection and facilities like 5-days a week and better pay scales. He imposed VAT on traders when he was in power, but now he promises to abolish the same,

if he comes to power again. Naidu as CM opposed free power to farmers, but now he is offering the same. After neglecting farmers' interests while in power, he is now claiming to stand by them in every possible manner.

Except in some pockets, people are not ready to totally trust him. That is the reason for his party lagging behind in Seemandhra region. His high voltage campaign against Jagan that he had amassed one lakh crore rupees through corruption is unable to make any impact on the voters. A section of people still consider Naidu who rose from a meager two acres to present level is a beneficiary of corrupt system.

Naidu's flip-flop on Telangana too is a major hindrance to the TDP's growth in the region. Of course, the position of TDP has improved after its claim to continue its previous decision in favour of Telangana at the December 28th all-party meeting convened by the Union Home Minister Sushil Kumar Shinde. But, this is not enough. TDP leaders are still to come out on streets actively and fight for Telangana state shedding reservations.

By remaining neutral at the crucial No-confidence motion moved by fellow opposition parties, Chandrababu Naidu





has prevented the fall of the Kiran Kumar Reddy government and escaped from facing early elections. But, Naidu cannot escape from elections forever. Anyway, the general elections are just a year away. He cannot avoid them, but saving this unpopular Kiran Reddy government, Naidu missed out a golden chance to attack this government in the eyes of the people. He will have a lot to explain to the people why he has not done his bit to get rid of this government if it is anti-people as being accused by him.

### Can Congress and TDP sack 'defectors'?

The state of affairs of "anti-defection law" in Andhra Pradesh assembly is mockery of democracy. In fact, there is an assault on the Indian Constitution and yet no one seems to be bothered about it. The Speaker is absolutely partisan in conducting his business. Everyone has seen how MLAs belonging to congress and TDP have been openly defying whips issued by their parties and yet no action under anti-defection law is taken by the Speaker. Despite the fact that several MLAs resigning from their party and openly joining other parties - no action is taken for months and in some cases years also. The speaker on several occasions revealed his true colors in being partisan towards MLAs belonging to the Telangana region in particular and on occasions to MLAs belonging to non-congress party MLAs. The present Speaker N Manohar, in fact, belittled the

right of the elected representatives in Andhra Pradesh to resign their seats from the elected house. He bemoaned this practice in the presence of visiting British parliamentary delegation as if India was still a dominion of the British Empire. It was a pathetic sight to see the Speaker expressing anguish at the legitimate and constitutionally endowed right of a member to resign from house on genuine and voluntary grounds.

When a dozen MLAs belonging to the congress party and about half a dozen belonging to the TDP have publicly resigned from their respective parties and joined other parties; neither the Speaker nor the leaders of these parties dare disqualify them for fear of facing a by-election. This situation is so rampant that one wonders whether "Anti-Defection Law" is in force in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

On the occasion of the latest No-Confidence Motion that was moved by the TRS and supported by the YSRCP; several MLAs belonging to the ruling congress as well as those belonging to the TDP have defied the whips issued; it is seen if the two parties (Congress and TDP) would dare to seek disqualification of these defectors or will choose to conveniently ignore for fear of facing the by-polls. ♦

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## Addicted to Alcohol or Drugs?



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Life Skill Enhancement

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Psychotherapy  
AA / NA 12 Step Program  
Management of Emotions and Feelings  
Individual and Group Counselling



## PHOENIX FOUNDATION

Rehabilitation Centre for Substance Abuse and Behavioural Addiction

# 38, Anupuram Kapra, A.S. Rao Nagar, Secunderabad - 62. A.P. India  
Contact : +91 888 696 55 66, 88863 33112, +91 40 27169999, 65865558  
Email : info@phoenixrehab.co.in

[www.phoenixrehab.co.in](http://www.phoenixrehab.co.in)

# Dual Loyalty of Owaisi Duo

By B Shivkant

It appears that the state of Andhra Pradesh has become a fools' paradise for the politicians and most of the politicians do not care for the ethics, principles and ideology. Recently, the Owaisi Brothers have rebelled against the congress party and broke all ties with the UPA Government at centre and in the state too after the Adilabad police have booked sedition charges against the hate speech delivered by All India Majlis Ittehadul Muslimeen (MIM) party leader and Chandrayangutta MLA Akbaruddin Owaisi. In that case, Akbaruddin spent nearly 39 days in Adilabad Central Jail and got released on conditional bail citing health grounds. At the same time MIM party president and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi too got arrested in a 8 year old case wherein he and his party MLAs and workers allegedly harassed the then Medak District Collector while he was monitoring the execution of the road widening works and Asaduddin had to spend some time in Medak Jail and he too got released on bail. Asad has made it clear to the media that Kiran "was" his friend and Jagan "is" his friend.

Since then the MIM party has declared political war against Kiran Kumar Reddy led Congress government in the state and when they did not get permission to hold a party rally in Aurangabad, Asaduddin blamed the congress party that it is afraid of MIM party and that's the reason why it is not allowing MIM to spread its bases to other states like Maharashtra. Not stopping there, again Asaduddin Owaisi along with his party MLAs got arrested in Basava Kalyan in Karnataka and again got released from the Police Station on personal guarantee. Speculations is rife that the senior MIM leader and Charminar MLA Ahmed Pasha Quadri would also be arrested for his objectionable remarks against the father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi.

The MIM party was expected that it will not support the congress government at any cost but it surprised everyone in the state by not supporting the recent No-Confidence Motion proposed by the TRS Party and supported by Jagan's YSR Congress Party, BJP,



CPI and CPIM. The Telugu Desham Party refrained from the No Trust Motion and stayed away from the voting resulting in the Kiran Kumar Reddy winning the No Trust Motion by 142-58 votes in the state legislature.

While speaking to the media, Asaduddin accused the congress government led by Kiran Kumar Reddy of having failed on every front and does not have the right to continue in power. On one hand the MIM party is trying to be the face of whole Indian Muslims and by praising Baba Saheb Dr Ambedkar the MIM party is trying to attract the Dalit voters and strengthen and its present base (which is confined to old city of Hyderabad) in the company of YSR Congress Party which is

believed to enjoy the support of the Christians, Reddy community having already eaten away the traditional vote bank of congress party in the state.

People are unable to accept the gimmicks and tricks being played by the political parties and their leaders. On one hand the main Opposition Party leader Chandra Babu Naidu in one way supported the Congress government which lacks the actual majority and prevented the fall of the Kiran Kumar Reddy government due to the reasons best known to him and on the other hand the MIM party which was believed to be compelled by the congress party to run in the line of fire would also vote against the Congress Party but

strangely these things didn't happen and this act has helped the ruling congress party.

It appears that the MIM Party and its leaders are trying to sail on Two Boats and maintaining Dual Loyalty with both the congress party and YSR congress party and they turned core opportunists by adopting this new dual loyalty concept and are hoping that they can better their chances in the general elections whenever they held. But it seems that the people of the state are now well informed and much vigilant and they will surely reject such opportunist leaders who lost their credibility and will not be fooled by these kinds of cheap tricks and gimmicks. Beware Politicians! ♦

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## No Cash Seizure in Hyderabad

By B Shivkant, Crime Correspondent

Deccan Post has carried continuous articles on how the lower rung police officials were harassing the common man and business people in the name of Vehicle check and seizing the valuables like cash and gold from them and troubling them by asking to come again and again for the release of the same insisting on production of the "proof of the source" of the cash seized. Many irregularities reportedly took place in returning the valuables to its genuine claimants especially in Central Zone. In the last issue Deccan Post published how the Commissioner of Police Anurag Sharma assured that there would be no seizure of Gold and Cash of the common man and the vehicle checks will be for nabbing the unsocial elements.

### DP Effect

After Deccan Post published the atrocious functioning of the lower rung police officials and taking



the matter to the top cop of the city, it is being felt by the common public that now the police is just frisking the pillion riders and checking the Auto Rickshaws and other vehicles and not insisting for the source of the cash or the gold and not getting into other departments' duties by investigating the source of the cash.

The traders, dealers of various commodities, whole sellers, retailers, dry fruit merchants, and plastic and novelty merchants are thanking the Kotwal Saab who provided them the biggest relief saving them from the notorious police officials who were just after them and their cash. The common man is also experiencing relief for his purchasing and shopping for festivals and marriages and slowly the city is coming onto the tracks. ♦

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# Stop being lenient to Western Nations

Entire India watched in shock and despair over the Italian government's brazen announcement that two of its marines who were detained and facing trial for killing two Kerala fishermen would not return to the country violating the undertaking given by the Italian Envoy to the apex court. The two Marines – Salvatore Girone and Massimalino Latore – went to Italy in February on the pretext of casting their votes in Italian elections. This uncharacteristic gesture itself was a matter of surprise to many lawyers and learned people across the nation.

The two accused Italian marines were detained by Kerala Police for killing two fishermen- Ajesh Binki and Gelestine – on February 15th, 2012, in Indian waters on Arabian Sea. The Italian Marines, on their vessel MV Enrica opened fire without any provocation on the Indian fishermen going in their boat, St Antony, and instantaneously killed both of them.

This happened within 20 nautical miles distance from Kerala coast, which is the sovereign-legal contiguous zone of India and their action of opening fire and killing of two Indians is a clear case of penal offence/crime under Indian laws. The Italian marines are to be tried as per the Indian laws for the brutal murder of Indian fishermen. Of course, the Italians are arguing in their defense that they mistook the fishermen for oceanic pirates; however, the Kerala government authorities are affirming that there was no evidence to agree with the brutal act of the Marines.

Whether India has jurisdiction over the ceased Italian vessel or the Italians should be tried under the Indian penal laws, which was

contested by Italians, is to be decided by the courts in India as per the laws. The Kerala High Court has been monitoring the case and the Supreme Court too has been involved in the case as Italy has raised some international legal points. What perplexed people of the country is the manner in which Italy has given a guarantee before the Supreme Court of India to secure parole for the accused Marines to fly back home and how it sought to backtrack. This sort of volte face by the Italian government nullifying its own assurance in the highest court of a friendly nation is atrocious. It is unbecoming of a civilized nation to conduct itself which is outright breach of trust and absolute disregard for consequences. Government of Italy told Government of India on March 11th that their accused Marines would not return to India, as

the country has no jurisdiction to try them.

But, before securing permission to the Marines release on bail, Italian ambassador to India Daniele Mancini gave an undertaking before the apex court that he stands as guarantee for their return. Based on his word, the court has allowed the government to send the Marines to home, hoping that the envoy would honour his commitment.

The defiance of Italy on this sensitive issue has now becoming a major diplomatic tussle between India and Italy and dire consequences are likely to follow in the coming few days, unless Italy realizes its folly and sends back the Marines for trial. As of now, the SC of India has decided not to allow envoy Mancini to leave the country without its permission. All Indian airports were alerted on

possible departure of Mancini.

Similarly, the PM Manmohan Singh has directed the External Affairs Minister not to send new Indian ambassador to Italy, Basant Gupta, till the issue is settled. This is a way of registering our protest and conveying our sense of hurt to the Italian government which is adamant on disregarding its word to Indian apex court. But, why these sorts of things are so frequently happening? Why Italy is taking Indian concerns casually? This is not the first time that Italy has ignored Indian concerns on a serious issue and behaved insensitively. First it happened in the case of deportation of Ottavio Quattrocchi, the Italian middleman in Bofors Scam. In spite of several reminders and requests from India, Italy kept silent on his deportation to India.

Next, it has happened in the case of Italy's Chopper manufacturing company -- Finmeccanica, which paid bribes to Indian dealers in the sale of Augusta Westland helicopters. In spite of Italian government filing a case against the firm, the government has not given any information to a CBI team which went all the way to Rome. Is this because Italy thinks that India can be taken for granted? Is it because India always went soft on western nations whenever they violated laws of the land? While, India always acted tough with neighbors; it has some how shown a lot of slackness in committing the accused foreign businessmen belonging to Western Nations for trial under the Indian Penal Code. It is high time India starts asserting its sovereign powers to bring the foreign offenders to trial irrespective of their nationality. Beginning with Italy would be the most appropriate occasion. ♦

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## Why lull in T stir?

Deccan Post is doing a wonderful job for achieving statehood for Telangana and I observed it since few years that Deccan Post is continuously publishing each and every happening pertaining to the Telangana issue. Everyone talks about Telangana and the movement and agitation attached to it but all of a sudden the movement which reaches its peak position slows down and calm down very strategically by the politicians who advocate for Telangana and its pathetic to see that no politician is serious and has enough credibility to strive for achieving the long pending desire of the Four crore people of the Region. Deccan Post very perfectly expressed the way how things happen politically. Our so called pro Telangana politicians must prove their loyalty



and honesty towards Telangana and have some courage to face come what may and then only I think Telangana will be a reality or else it will remain as a political agenda for ages.

Ramesh Rao, Patancheru

## CP talks tough.....

Your last week's lens-eye page story titled CP talks tough in taking action against Corrupt Cops was nothing but the factual position in Hyderabad. It appears that the Correspondent has done a lot of homework before coming up with such a wonderful article. In the name of vehicle checking and frisking the common commuters on road the people are suffering great harassment from the police. Police is so insensitive that if someone passes by without noticing the Police constable stopping them then the police officers goes crazy and beat them brutally openly in the day light at Abids Road

and their senior officers who are present at the spot remain mute spectators encouraging the insensitive and unprofessional police officers to beat the common man just for a silly mistake of not noticing the signal of the police constables. We as a common man were so happy when we heard that a honest officer like Anurag Sharma has been appointed as the new Police Commissioner but it seems one good fellow cannot control many bad fellows. The demand the government to order the concerned top police officials to keep an eye on their staff and take stringent action against the corrupt police officers at once to set the example for others.

Anuj Bansal, Himayathnagar

## Tax Racket by Central Govt....

Your article regarding the tax racket by Central government against the State Government was exclusive and unique. I wonder why no economist has not

observed it and why nobody raised his voice against this smart act of our Finance Minister P Chidambaram? There is all possibility that by incorporating this proposal, the state owned and state run PSUs are going to be affected very badly and had to pay more taxes to the central government and the silence of the state governments seems very mysterious. Why no state government or any state Finance Minister or Chief Minister has not objected for proposing such kind of disastrous clause in the Union Budget 2013. Already our state of Andhra Pradesh is going through a lot of stress and problems and this will surely add the fuel. I congratulate the author Dr CP Ramaswami for bringing this very disastrous clause to the notice of one and all and expect that the government will open its eyes and take an initiative against the announcement of Chidambaram.

Parab Goswami, E-mail

Readers are requested to send in their feedback to mail@deccanpost.net

letters  
TO THE EDITOR



# Capital Punishment must for heinous crimes...

By Sridhar Rama

Capital punishment or the death penalty is a legal process whereby a person is put to death by the state as a punishment for a crime. The judicial decree that someone be punished in this manner is a death sentence, while the actual process of killing the person is an execution. Capital punishment has in the past, been practiced by most societies. Currently 58 nations actively practice it, and 97 countries have abolished it (the remainder have not used it for 10 years or allow it only in exceptional circumstances such as wartime).

It is a matter of active controversy in various countries and states, and positions can vary within a single political ideology or cultural region. In the European Union member states, Article 2 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union prohibits the use of capital punishment. Currently, Amnesty International considers most countries abolitionist. The UN General Assembly has adopted, in 2007, 2008 and 2010, non-binding resolutions calling for a global moratorium on executions, with a view to eventual abolition. Although many nations have abolished capital punishment, over 60% of the world's population live in countries where executions take place, such as the People's Republic of China, India, the United States of America and Indonesia, the four most-populous countries in the world, which continue to apply the death penalty (although in India, Indonesia and in many US states it is rarely employed). Each of these four nations voted against the General Assembly resolutions.

However, Capital punishment in India is a legal but rarely carried out sentence. Imposition of the penalty is not always followed by execution (even when it is upheld on appeal), because of the possibility of commutation to life imprisonment. In recent times there has been numerous gaps; between the hanging of one Auto Shankar in 1995 and Dhananjay Chatterjee in 2004, and thereafter until the execution of Pakistani terrorist Ajmal Kasab on 21 November, 2012 and the last one accused for conspiracy of carrying out an attack on India Parliament -Afzal Guru was hanged a few weeks ago. As of now i.e. March-2013, there are 476 convicts on death row in India. States with the maximum number of prisoners on death row are Uttar Pradesh (174), Karnataka (61), Maharashtra (50) and Bihar (37).

The Supreme Court of India ruled in 1983 that the death penalty should be imposed only in "the rarest of rare cases." Crimes which are punishable by death sentence are murder, gang robbery with

murder, abetting the suicide of a child or insane person, waging war against the nation, and abetting mutiny by a member of the armed forces. In recent years, the death penalty has been imposed under new anti-terrorism legislation for people convicted of terrorist activities. The rampant crimes being perpetrated by self-styled custodians of customs and medieval orthodoxies has compelled India's apex court to recommend death penalty be extended to those found guilty of committing "honour killings". The Supreme Court declared that honour killings fall within the "rarest of the rare" category and it also recommended death sentences to be awarded to those police officials who commit police brutality in the form of encounter killings.

On 3 February 2013, in response to public outcry over a brutal gang rape of "valiant young lady" in Delhi who succumbed eventually in Singapore, the Indian Government passed an ordinance which applied the death penalty in cases of rape that leads to death or leaves the victim in a "persistent vegetative state". In India the death penalty is carried out by hanging. An attempt to challenge this method of execution failed in the Supreme Court, which stated in its 1983 judgment that hanging did not involve torture, barbarity, humiliation or degradation. Once sentenced, a defendant has the right to appeal against the sentence as well as the conviction. The appeal will be heard by a higher court and can go all the way up to the Supreme Court, a process that can take two to three years. If all fails, the President can be approached to grant clemency - something he can do only after seeking the advice of the Indian cabinet. There is no definite time period in which the president has to make a decision. This anomaly has led to large delays in some cases, with convicts remaining on death row for several years.

Between 1975 and 1991, about 40 people were executed. The number of people executed in India since independence in 1947 is a matter of dispute; official government statistics claim that only 52 people had been executed since independence, but the People's Union for Civil Liberties cited information from Appendix 34 of the 1967 Law Commission of India report showing that 1,422 executions took place in 16 Indian states from 1953 to 1963. No official statistics of those sentenced to death have been released.

On 27 April 1995, Auto Shankar was hanged in Salem, Tamil Nadu. About 26 mercy petitions are pending before the Indian President, some of them from 1992. These include those of Khalistan

Liberation Force Bhai Davinder Singh Bhullar who was not convicted of any crime, the cases of slain forest brigand Veerappan's four associates—Simon, Gnanprakasham, Meesekar Madaiah and Bilvendran—for killing 21 policemen in 1993; and one Praveen Kumar for killing four members of his family in Mangalore in 1994.

It appears that judges in the lower courts are also getting increasingly averse to awarding capital punishment. For example in 2007 several high profile cases involving premeditated cold blooded murders, rape and murder of minors during rioting, terrorist bombings, etc. have not attracted the death penalty. But activists reveal a flaw, that due to the absence of sentencing guidelines in what constitutes "rarest of the rare", in some less gruesome murders, the lower courts have awarded death sentences possibly due to poor defense presented by the lawyers of the economically backward.

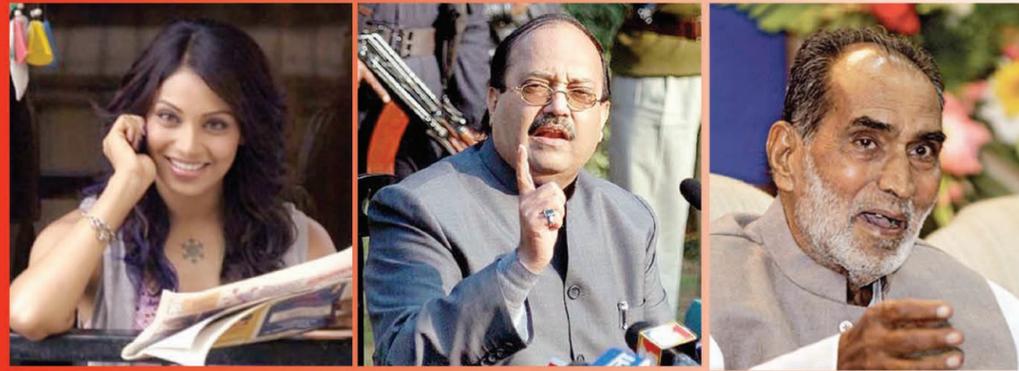
On 5 March 2012, a sessions court in Chandigarh ordered the execution of Balwant Singh Rajoana, a Singh from Babbar Khalsa, convicted for his involvement in the assassination Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh. The sentence was to be carried out on 31 March 2012 in Patiala Central Jail, but the Centre stayed the execution on 28 March due to worldwide protests by Sikhs that the execution was unfair and amounted to a human rights violation. On 13 March 2012, a court in Sirsa, Haryana, condemned to death the 22-year-old Nikka Singh for raping a 75-year-old woman and later murdering her by gagging her mouth with a shawl and strangling her neck with her salwar on 11 February 2011. "The imposition of the death sentence was most appropriate in this case. The court has held that it was a cold-blooded murder and where rape was committed on an innocent and hapless old woman," said Neelima Shangla, the Sirsa additional district and sessions judge. "The rape and cold-blooded murder of a woman, who was of grandmother's age of the accused, falls in the rarest of the rare case." The court held that Nikka Singh was a "savage" whose "existence on earth was a grave danger to society" as he had also attempted to rape two other village women.

In June 2012, it became known that the then Indian president Pratibha Patil near the end of her five-year term as president commuted the death sentence of as many as 35 convicts to life, including four on the same day (2 June), which created a storm of protest. This caused further embarrassment to the government when it came to light that

one of these convicts, Bandu Baburao Tidke — convicted for the rape and murder of a 16-year-old girl — had already died five years ago from HIV.

Shri Pranab Mukherjee after taking over as the new president of India in July, however, had the task of acting swiftly on Ajmal Kasab's mercy petition. Kasab was charged for murder, waging war on India, possessing explosives, and other charges. Kasab has been sentenced to death for attacking Mumbai city and killing 166 people on 26 November 2008 along with nine Pakistani terrorists. He was found guilty of 80 offences, including waging war against the nation, which is punishable by the death penalty. Kasab's death sentence was upheld by the Bombay High Court on 21 February 2011 and by the Supreme Court on 29 August 2012. On 21 November 2012, Kasab was hanged in the Yerwada Central Jail in Pune. His mercy plea was rejected by the president on 5 November and the same was communicated to him on 12 November. The events of his hanging were shrouded in secrecy. Perhaps, the government of India had little choice in keeping Kasab alive even for a day unlike Afzal Guru. Since the political compulsions were becoming inevitable even Afzal Guru was hanged to death.

Afzal Guru was convicted of conspiracy in connection with the 2001 Indian Parliament attack and was sentenced to death. The Supreme Court of India upheld the sentence, ruling that the attack "shocked the conscience of the society at large." Afzal was scheduled to be executed on 20 October 2006, but the sentence was stayed. Afzal Guru was hanged to death on February 9, 2013 at Delhi's Tihar Jail on that fateful day taking every one by surprise and some of those in Kashmir Valley shocked. The debate will continue whether India needs to continue system of awarding capital punishment for only those involving murder or also include those committing heinous crimes like rapes or make effective changes in sync with the modern methods being adopted world wide. Last but not the least, every person accused of murder or rape or any other offense that qualifies as a rarest of rare cases by the judiciary must be referred to a special jury comprising of former judges, well known human right activists and social workers for examining the execution of such a person from a point of view which the criminal justice system does not permit. This sort of mechanism can save innocent persons to escape death penalty and instead endure lifelong imprisonment for failure to come out clean during the trail. ♦



By Jaywant Naidu

Telephone recording laws are laws that govern the civilian conversations. Telephone tapping is officially strictly controlled in many countries to safeguard an individual's privacy. Illegal or unauthorized telephone tapping is often a criminal offence. In India, telephone tapping has to be approved by a designated authority. It is illegal otherwise. The Central Government or State Government is empowered to order interception of messages per section 5 of Indian Telegraph Act 1885. Rule 419 and 419A sets out the procedure of interception and monitoring of telephone messages. There is a provision for a review committee to supervise the order of interception. Phone tapping is permitted based on Court order only and such permission is granted only if it is required to prevent a major offence involving national security or to gather intelligence on anti-national/terrorist activities.

Though, economic offences/tax evasion were initially covered under the reasons for interception of phones, the same was withdrawn in the year 1999 by the Government based on a Supreme Court order citing protection to privacy of the individual. There is no provision for attachment for recording conversation.

**Agencies which tap phones:**

Subject to approval, the agencies mandated to do telephone tapping in India are the Intelligence Bureau (IB), the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), the Enforcement Directorate (ED), the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), the CBI, the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) and the police departments of Union Territories and Research and Analysis wing (RAW). The process begins with designated officials in the mandated agencies moving a request to their heads with details of the "target" and why his or her activities need to be tapped for public safety. The head vets this before approaching the home secretary, applying under a standard format, for permission under the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885. For the three agencies under the Finance Ministry ED, DRI and CBDT, any request they make has to be routed through the revenue secretary. This change was introduced in the wake of the storm that erupted over leaked conversations between corporate lobbyist Nira Radia and public personalities like Ratan Tata. In the home secretary's absence, an official of the level of joint secretary is to be designated by a

written order. Within a week of the sanction, a committee headed by the cabinet secretary with the secretaries for home, law, telecommunication as members has to approve it. In the states, the authorization authority is the state home secretary and the review committee would include a secretary besides him. On rare instances of urgency, the agencies can begin interception before the home secretary's approval but have to procure it within 72 hours. All sanctions, unless renewed, expire in two months and can be extended only up to a maximum of 180 days. For an extension, the agency is required to provide a gist of intelligence gathered in the first 60 days. Also, the transcripts should be destroyed after six months.

The home secretary's authorization was made mandatory by a Supreme Court judgment in 1996. Originally, only the IB and the RAW were engaged in surveillance but without formal approval. Both had designated booths in telephone exchanges. Under an amendment to Section 5 (2) of the Telegraph Act in 1971, government agencies acquired powers to intercept communications but this was notified only when Emergency was imposed in 1975. This was because the focus shifted beyond smugglers and foreign exchange racketeers. Two agencies, DRI and ED, were given the power to tap phones. The Central Economic Intelligence Bureau was created in 1987 and acquired these powers till it lost them later, followed by the NCB in 1988, the CBI in 1992, and the CBDT in 2005.

**Method of tapping:**

In the past, tapes were used for recording. The machines were manual and someone had to be posted to plug in the lines. Till 1992, one machine could tap only 10 lines. One of the biggest problems was repairs. The company from Bangalore had to send repairmen to the site, a process that often took days because the same mechanic had to travel all over India. Today, a wide range of snooping equipment is available off

the shelf. Modern gadgets can recognize voices and automatically record a conversation. The government has now undertaken a Rs 200 crore project for a Central Monitoring System (CMS) that will give intelligence agencies direct connectivity with the target numbers and, in effect, keep service providers out of the loop. The project is expected to be completed in two years and then introduced in all state capitals.

**Present scenario in India:**

Today, various law enforcement agencies are tapping almost 10,000 phones across India, while over 1,000 E-mail accounts are under the scanner, after clearance from the Union Home Secretary. According to an internal note, the committee, formed following orders from the Supreme Court to review orders passed by the Home Secretary for interception of calls and E-mails under the Indian Telegraph Act, said 10,648 orders have been passed for interception of phones and E-mails last year.

The three-member committee, which



of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) was tapping 519 phones in August, while the Narcotics Control Bureau had 165 under surveillance. Interestingly, the Central Bureau of Investigation had just 39 phones under surveillance while the National Investigation Agency was tapping just 8 lines. In the case of E-mails, the IB was snooping on 1,043 E-mail IDs last year, 460 under fresh sanction and 583 in continuation, while the State Intelligence units were tracking 136 (94 fresh and 42 in continuation); the DRI took permission from the Union Home Secretary to track 5 E-mail accounts.

**Does phone tapping go political?**

In 1988, Chandrasekhar, then not yet prime minister, alleged his phones were being tapped which forced the then government to set guidelines for the first time. One of these was to specify mandatorily whether the target is an elected representative. The first large-scale misuse of the provisions became evident in the year 2003 when Kailash Sethi, CEIB Chief, was accused of using phone interceptions to target his senior B P Verma, then chairman of the Central Board of Excise and Customs, and Someshwar Mishra, then Delhi Chief Commissioner of Central Excise. The CEIB lost its powers to intercept calls. Later on, the Nira Radia controversy resulted in additional checks being put in place in the year 2010. Industrialist Ratan Tata took the Government of India to Supreme Court and mentioned that 'Every person had a right to be considered innocent until found guilty in a court of law and that the government shouldn't misuse its phone-tapping powers'. A CD purportedly containing phone conversations of Samajwadi Party leader Amar Singh was mailed to all major TV channels. The CD contained conversations between Amar Singh and several leaders like then Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav and actresses like Bipasha Basu.

Recently, it was observed by the trial court that the accused - Delhi Police constable Arvind Dabas had 'impinged' upon the right to privacy of various persons and had attacked their fundamental rights of life and liberty, and the trial court dismissed his bail plea along with three others in Arun Jaitley phone tapping case. The Supreme Court in the People's Union for Civil Liberties Vs Union of India case held that a telephone conversation in private without interference would come under the purview of the Right to Privacy as specified by the Constitution.

**Right of citizen:**

A citizen has the right to lodge a complaint at the local police station. This complaint would be subject to an investigation before action can be initiated against the individuals tapping phones illegally. However, before an Indian files a complaint, he or she will need to know whether his/her phone is being tapped or not. Ways in which a citizen could discover this: Landlines: A device called a phone tapping detector could determine if your landline is being tapped or not. This device can be connected to the telephone and will alert users with a blinking light if the phone is being tapped. Such a device, which costs around Rs 1,200, is not easily available in India; hence one would have to rely on manual means to determine if the phone is being tapped. During a conversation, if you hear a tone which keeps breaking or has short beeps, this could mean that the phone is being tapped. However, one must not confuse it with a long steady tone. In addition to this, there could be some disturbances which may sound like a radio frequency. Although, in most cases this is just a case of bad reception, it is also an indicator that the phone is being tapped.

Mobile phones: Tapping cell phones is currently more common compared to tapping landline phone numbers. Most of the conversations these days are conducted on cell phones. Hence, 80 percent of the calls being tapped are from cell phones. If you believe that your phone is being tapped, and then during a conversation listen carefully whether the volume of the phone is affected. There could be short beeps too, which indicate that the phone is being tapped. Another thing to do is watch the cell phone when it is not in use. It could emit strange sounds when kept aside. It means that someone is trying to pick up transmissions, a clear indication that the phone is being tapped. Not only this, such noises would also mean that your cell phone is acting as a transmitter to pick up conversations from phones around you. There are other symptoms too. The battery of your cell phone could be draining out faster than normal. Apart from the normal battery problem, this could also indicate that your phone is working as a transmitter which is contributing to the battery drain. Also, if the phone feels warm despite not being in use, then again it would mean it is sending out a transmission in order to tap a phone near you. There are legal remedies available in case you feel that your phone is being illegally tapped. A complaint can be lodged with the police and in case the police fails to act, a petition can always be filed in appropriate court alleging invasion of privacy as mandated in the Constitution of India.

So, check out your phones and Mobiles for any symptoms of 'Phone Tapping'? ♦



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E R G O N O M I C S

SEATING EXCELLENCE AT WORK

# Annual Bramhotsavam in Sri Kodanda Rama Swamy

'Dhwajaroohanam' was performed in the temple, signaling the commencement of the nine-day annual 'Brahmotsavam' in Sri Kodanda Ramaswamy Temple in Tirupati on Monday morning. The sacred yellow cloth flag with the imprint of Lord Garuda, the celestial carrier of Lord Maha Vishnu, was hoisted atop the golden flag post 'Dhwajastambham' situated inside the temple complex at the auspicious Vrushabha lagnam at 10.30 am amidst the traditional recitation of Vedic hymns by temple priests.

Prior to the divine ceremony, the processional deities of Sri Kodanda Ramaswamy, Seetha Devi and Lakshmana along with the Dwajapatam were taken around the mada



streets encircling the shrine in a grand procession. It is believed Lord Garuda goes round the temple complex extending invitations to all gods, heavenly bodies, rishis and the entire devatha community to participate in the Brahmotsavam of Lord.

Dy. EO (Local Temples) Sri Chandrasekhar Pillai, RDO Sri Ramachandra Reddy, DPP Special Officer Sri Raghunath, Suptd Engineer Sri Sudhakar Rao, Executive Engineer, Sri Jagadeeswara Reddy, Garden Superintendent Sri Srinivas, Temple Superintendent Sri Munisuresh Reddy, Temple Inspector Sri Anjaneyulu, Staff and devotees took part.



## ASTRO FOCUS

Mar 17-23, 2013

**Aries:** This week your profile will be positive and you will work on projects, which would have tremendous effect on your life. At work you will be in the good books of your seniors and you will also benefit monetarily. Foreign transaction or overseas journey will prove to be highly beneficial.

**Taurus:** You'll be attracted by a new proposal at work which would give you more possibilities to grow and develop. Get your mentor in on the act. Budding romance for those unattached will bring new excitement and cheerfulness in life. Health will be perfect, but you certainly need to take precautions in the changing weather.

**Gemini:** Opportunities that present themselves to you would lead to good things later on. Think fast and you can definitely work this state of flux to your advantage. You would take charge of important work and gain additional respect from people in your group. Sudden romantic developments with a stranger will brighten up your days ahead.

**Cancer:** In career, you'll however gain some reputation. Selective speculation in real estate and stocks will be highly rewarding. You will definitely pick up valuable suggestion if you listen properly. Love and romance will dominate your week as you go out of the way to please your beloved. It will be necessary that you take special care of your health and take extra rest this week.

**Leo:** Open communication will lead to better understanding and appreciation of your thoughts. Big progress on the big-picture, long-term agenda items you've been plugging away at is a real possibility at the beginning of this week. You should remember that working together is an excellent way to accomplish common goals and benefits. Unusual circumstances will involve legal matters and prove financially expensive. Your relationship will give you positive result.

**Virgo:** The outflow of money will still create hindrance in executing your new plans and projects. Taking opinion from people who have experience and knowledge will be important. This is a wonderful week to attend seminars and exhibition that interests you. Romantic vibrations from somebody in your neighborhood would come as a surprise and lift your spirits. Health will be normal despite a busy and hectic week.

**Libra:** Your concentration will be good and others will give you the respect you deserve. Income is likely to improve, but there will be a rise in expenses as well. The key: Show the right people that you're serious now. Your love life will flourish, with your beloved going out of the way to keep you happy. Your health will give you positive indication.

**Scorpio:** You realize that working, as a team will ensure gains. Make a plan, budget your time and stay on task. Meet people or settle deals with new partners and co-workers, thus creating new alliances, which will open up alternative horizons. Youngsters are going through an important and constructive time in their professional life.

**Sagittarius:** Your ideas would appeal to majority of people and you should take advantage of this and utilize it to your benefit. You will be the center of attention, and you should not waste these opportunities to revive lost contacts. At office your efforts will bring desired results. You will accomplish jobs at a speed that usually seems impossible. Intense loving from your spouse or beloved keeps you in an excellent mood.

**Capricorn:** Finances improve later in the week as you benefit from past investments. A good moment for making new contacts; these could be influential soon as regards your future choices. Travel and related activities will bring both gains and pleasure. Proper exercise and diet will be important to maintain regular good health.

**Aquarius:** You'll attract more respect and honor from people young as well as old. You need not worry about your financial position. This week you should meet people who can further improve your career goals. Excellent cooperation is in store from your Love/ spouse. Extra rest, proper diet and little exercise will be important to regain your strength and spirits.

**Pisces:** A stable period of growth and prosperity sees you shine with new confidence and enthusiasm. Happy news from a friend or a close relative will boost your spirits and bring cheerful moments. Educational pursuits and creative activities may yield excellent results. Spouse will be caring and provide you with love and affection. Health seems perfect except minor stomach ailments, take necessary precautions and avoid eating any exposed food.

### SUDOKU 261

	6		3			7	8	
	1		2	7				
7		3			8	1		
				9	8	7		
1	2			6				
		7			4		6	2
		2	9		1			3
9	8			4		2		7
	3				2			8

**How to play :** Fill in the grid so that every horizontal row, every vertical column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9, without repeating the numbers in the same row, column or box. You can't change the digits already given in the grid. Every puzzle has one solution.

### ANSWERS Sudoku-260

2	5	6	1	3	4	7	8	9
9	7	8	2	6	5	3	1	4
3	1	4	7	9	8	2	6	5
1	6	2	3	5	9	8	4	7
5	9	7	8	4	1	6	3	2
4	8	3	6	7	2	9	5	1
7	4	5	9	8	3	1	2	6
6	3	1	4	2	7	5	9	8
8	2	9	5	1	6	4	7	3

Answer 260 : V Mamatha, Ramanthapur

### Laugh out loud

#### Two terrorists having discussion in a bar.

The waiter asks them what the discussion was about?

**Terrorist :-** We are planning to kill 14 thousand people and a donkey..

**Waiter :-** Why a donkey?

Then one terrorist says to the other, "See I told you nobody will care about the 14 thousand people".

★★★★★  
When aryabhata checked my papers, He invented zero:-P

★★★★★  
A child prayed to god for a cycle he didnt get.....:(  
next he goes to mandir n stole's ganesh ji's statue

N wrote a letter to shivji agar bacha chahye toh mandir k peeche cycle le k ajao....

★★★★★

Angrez darvaza kholne ko hindi me kaise kahega...

U dnt kw.....?

Mai batata hu.....

Wo kahega "THERE WAS A COLD DAY."

Say ten times khud samajh aa jayega

★★★★★

**Teacher:**What is half of 8??

Rajnikant: 4 ...

**Santa:**

Depend karta hai agar horizontally aadha karo to '0'

Aur vertically kaato toh '3'.

Santa rocked.

Rajnikant shocked\=D/

★★★★★

The Best Prank Call Ever:

"Hello KFC?"

"Yes, How can I help you sir?"

"I want MACDONALD'S number!!! :-P:-D

★★★★★

Ladka Exam Hall me pareshan tha Sir:Kya hua?

Qustn papr mushkil he?

**Boy:** Nahi sir, main to soch raha hu is qustn ka ans kis jeb me hai?

★★★★★

**Father to Son:** Beta tum history mein fail kyu huye?

**Son:** Papa, Sabhi question us samay ke the jab mai paida bhi nahi hua tha!

★★★★★

**Exams are like Girl friends**

Too many questions

Difficult to understand

More explanation is needed

Result is always fail!

# Educate every boy to respect a girl

Actress Neena Gupta was in Hyderabad on invitation of Moving Images as a part of the International Woman's Day celebrations. She shared her views exclusively with Deccan Post.

## How safe is the 'Woman of India'?

I think no woman is safe in this country. How much ever we talk of International Woman's Day or any special day for a Woman, it's only very superficial. I myself am not sure how safe it is for me to travel or walk in any city in India.

## Can you tell about your role as a mother?

It's like any other mother. Whenever my daughter does not come early in the night, I cannot sleep like any other mother. I am the friend, philosopher and guide to my daughter. I give advice to her on many important issues of her fashion designing work including marketing. Of course, finally it is her decision whether it should be implemented or not.

## Why are you not doing many films nowadays?

Looking at my age, I would only

get roles of a mother or an elder sister or aunt in any film. And there are hardly any worthwhile offers that come my way.

## What do you have to say about the past days films like 'Hunterwali' and the role of a Fearless Nadia?

Its all fine in the film. But, do we know how her relationship was 'off screen' with her husband. What is important is whether a woman has been treated with respect and dignity in her life.

## You were always known to be a bold woman who took a decision of having a child outside marriage?

I have never been bold. It's just that at that time, I thought I must go ahead with that decision and I did it against the wishes of my parents and well wishers. Sometimes I regret. I had even given a public statement at that time, that I had gone ahead to have a child outside a married relationship due to my self confidence, but others should not follow it. As ultimately I realize that all said and done I have also suffered due to that decision. It's a different matter that I could carry on life because I never depended

financially on anybody and could manage my work efficiently.

## What do you feel about the present day girl child who wants to learn and earn?

I feel actually, our old system of the man working and going out to earn was the right one. A woman used to take care of the home. Today, we are educating the girl child and when she moves towards working in the society, we expect her to stay at home and look after the family. This is a clear case of conflict. It does not help much for a woman to be working, in these days.

## What is the remedy for all the atrocities on any woman?

I think there is a need to educate the young boy/man at a very early age about giving respect to a girl/woman. It is also essential that we develop a system of self centric small towns where a man can work and earn his livelihood. Thereby he stays with his own family and does not be away on work in another city. This would definitely reduce the problems that we face in society today. ♦

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- JAYWANT NAIDU



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## Will Katrina kiss again ?

**S**izzling Katrina Kaif and Handsome Hrithik Roshan will yet again share a steamy kiss in their upcoming film 'Bang Bang'. However, reports now state that the stars will not exchange a smooch. As per a source, the smooch was part of the script and both Hrithik and Katrina had come to an agreement about the same, however suddenly Katrina changed her mind and now insists that she will not be doing a kissing scene with him. Buzz is that Kats sudden change of mind is because of her ex beau Salman Khan. Apparently



Salman was upset about Kats-SRK kissing scene in Jab Tak hai Jaan. Not that she kissed his rival but the fact that Kats hid it from Salman was what pissed him off.

Now Kats wants to stay in the good books of Salman Khan and so she decided to withdraw her agreement.

Says an insider, "Salman would not have cared about her kissing scenes with SRK in JTHJ but the fact that she went to great lengths to keep it hidden from him, pissed him off. She ensured that even the common business manager did not find out about the smooches, in case it was communicated back to Salman.

## Parvati Melton summoned to court

**A** case of sleaze was filed against two actresses, Anushka Shetty and Priyamani at Malkajgiri Court in Hyderabad, last Monday by a retired government employee. Now, Parvathi Melton joined the list. Buzz is that a case has been filed in Emmiganur police station, Kurnool district alleging Parvati acted in an obscene manner in "Yamaha Yama" film opposite Sai Ram Shankar. The posters of 'Yamaha Yama' show Parvati Melton in obscene manner with indecent attire and they are bringing disgrace to the Indian culture, says sources.

Police have booked cases on the actress, producer, director and distributor of the flick and served notices to all of them. Parvathi Melton, the sexy slender siren who debuted with 'Vennela' recently bid adieu to films after tying knot with her childhood friend Shamshu Lalani. We have to await for Parvathi's remarks on this sleaze case.

-DP Desk



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# Market remains steady

By V Sundar Raja

Stock market is seen in a consolidating, volatile and sideways mode at 19,500 levels, in the last few weeks. Technically, there is no major activity but market is seen recovering from lower levels, indicating stability. Strong buying by the Foreign Institutions and also a bullish rally in the American Stock markets into new highs have, been the major reasons for the market to sustain at the current levels. Market is seen indecisive and is waiting the RBI's banking interest rate decision on 19th March, which is likely to provide a trigger for the next major direction of the market.

Automobile stocks were seen in weak trend, due to decline in the sales of the cars, while Banking stocks were seen in a cautious trend and the infrastructure stocks were seen mixed. RBI decision on the bank's lending rates is likely to have an impact on these three interest sensitive sectors. Pharma stocks were seen in a positive trend, as they continue to advance further, while the software leaders are seen continuing the bullish trend. The consumer goods stocks are seen in an uptrend after an earlier bearish trend. The mid-cap and the small-cap stocks are seen consolidating at the current major support levels. Market needs to enter into a bullish trend, for the mid-cap stocks are likely to participate in the uptrend.

The leading base metals like the



Aluminum, Zinc, Copper, Nickel, and Lead are all placed cautiously at the current major support, after an earlier bearish trend, in the last one month, in the commodity market. The metals need to receive global trigger to enter into a short-term uptrend.

The precious metals like Gold and the Silver are still hovering just above the major support levels of 29,500 and 54,000 respectively in the MCX commodity markets. A technical relief rally is expected, for the short-term traders to be alert. The crude oil is inching up and it has to sustain above the current barrier of 5,100 levels, to indicate a

short-term uptrend with the next major barrier above at 5,250. Dollar is seen slightly declining against the Rupee from 55, but has the next major support below at 53.

The recent Industrial monthly production data has been positive, and the exports have gone up, raising hopes that there would economic revival in the next few months. Further, there is an increase in the advance tax collections from the companies, indicating a higher profit for the Indian company which is also a positive sign. But, the inflation data that was released on 14th March is seen little higher and has put the market on

a cautious note. The weather department is expected to issue weather forecast very soon, which is likely to impact the stock market.

Stock market is expected to move in a major narrow range in-between the psychological major levels of 20,000 and 19,000 levels. Only in case of any failure to sustain above the major support of 19,000 levels, then it indicates a short-term correction, for the short-term investors to be cautious. ♦

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*Note - Investors should be aware of risks in the stock market.*

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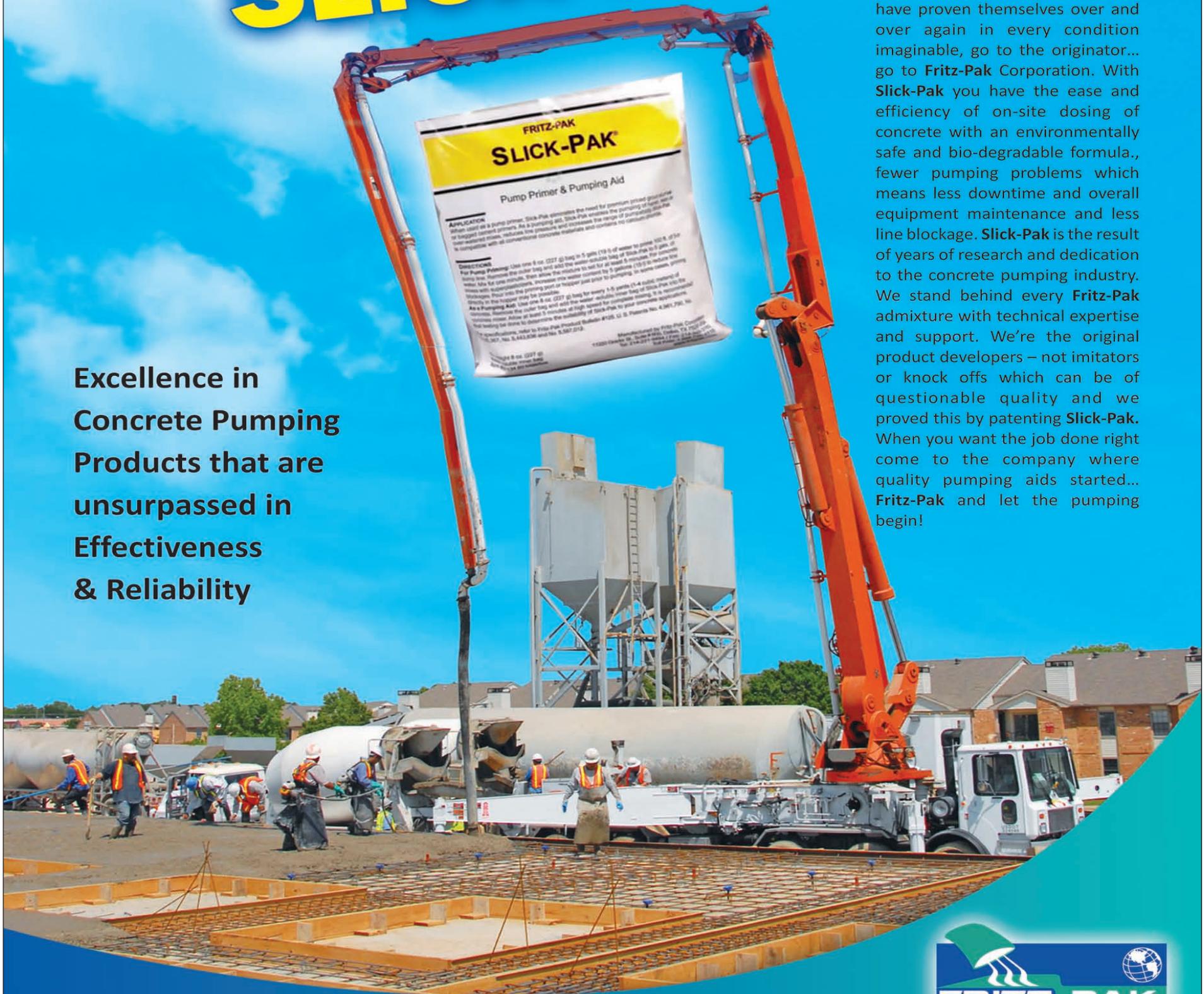
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