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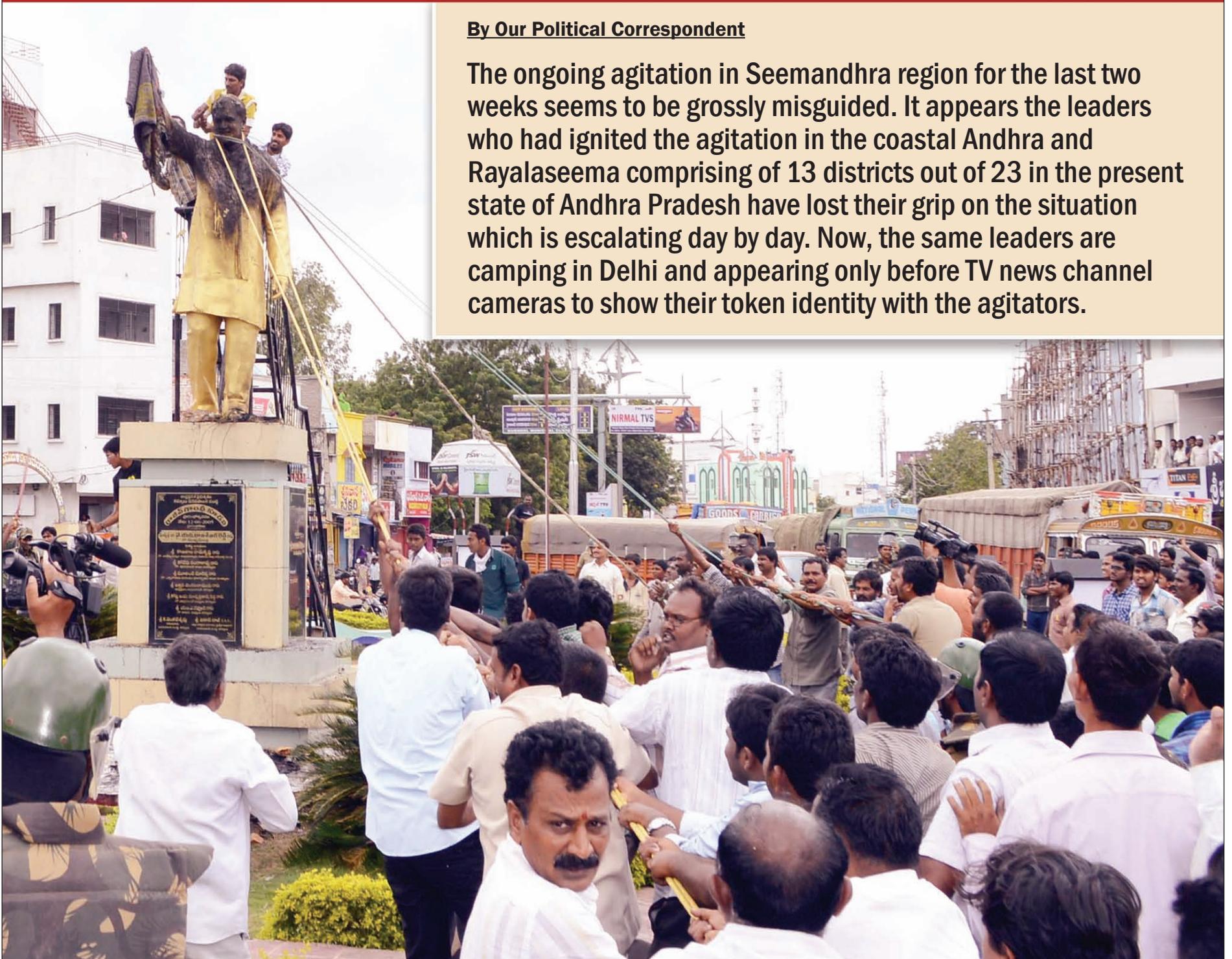
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Seemandhra agitation:

What are they struggling for?

By Our Political Correspondent

The ongoing agitation in Seemandhra region for the last two weeks seems to be grossly misguided. It appears the leaders who had ignited the agitation in the coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema comprising of 13 districts out of 23 in the present state of Andhra Pradesh have lost their grip on the situation which is escalating day by day. Now, the same leaders are camping in Delhi and appearing only before TV news channel cameras to show their token identity with the agitators.





True, several innocent people have ended their lives and thousands of youth came onto the streets worried over their future in a bifurcated Andhra Pradesh. These men and women are of the view that their lives would be endangered, if Telangana state is formed. They are thinking that their kids will suffer if Hyderabad becomes part of Telangana. In some districts like Anantapur and Kadapa, many agitators have indulged in undeterred violence destroying statues of Late Prime Ministers Jawahar Lal Nehru, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi. The hapless cops remained mute witnesses.

The APNGOs declared strike and came onto streets only because the bifurcation was causing them an uncertain future. These government employees are on strike since August 12th and teachers and RTC workers too have joined the strike subsequently. The joint action committee of Andhra Pradesh non-gazetted officers (APNGOs) is simply imitating their counterparts in Telangana. The Sakala Janula Samme (general strike) of Telangana employees carried out by people of Telangana exactly two years back seems to have become a role model for the agitators in Seema and

Andhra regions.

But, there is vast difference between the Telangana staff's Sakala Janula Samme and the present strike of APNGOs. The T-JAC was agitating for a legitimate cause of demanding a separate statehood for their region. Their demand was a result of several injustices heaped on them by successive Seema-Andhra political masters who held the reins of state administration for more than 50 years out of 57 years of co-existence. In fact, the T-NGOs resorted to the strike as a last weapon, after exhausting all options and ways to achieve their demand.

Whereas, the Seemandhra employees have resorted to the strike, as soon as the Congress Working Committee (CWC) and the UPA allies have decided to create 29th state of India, that is Telangana state on July 30th last month. The Congress Party that is heading the UPA coalition government has just asked the union cabinet to take steps to form the new state of Telangana with ten districts including Hyderabad district, i.e. the area comprising of the Hyderabad (residual) State as it existed prior to its merger with Andhra State which had 13 districts and

begin the process to sort out all the demands of people from both regions assuring the bifurcated Seemandhra State to use Hyderabad city as a joint capital for a period of ten years.

Seemandhra Ministers split into many groups

Tempers ran high as none other than the state Chief Minister Kiran Kumar Reddy himself openly came out venting his displeasure at the decision taken by his party high command after deliberating for over years. The belligerent attitude of Kiran Reddy gave fillip to several ministers in his cabinet to rebel against their party leadership with regards to the state division. After parroting for several years that they shall abide by the decision of congress party president Sonia Gandhi, every rebelling political leader belonging to the congress party have revealed how insincere they were all the while.

The role of Kiran Kumar Reddy in fomenting rebel against Sonia Gandhi's decision is something which is too annoying to the congress high command and top central leaders. They are shocked at his betrayal and the irresponsible

manner in which he is conducting himself and guiding the Seemandhra ministers to take part in street demonstrations being part of the state government. The role of some ministers like Sake Shailajanath, Ganta Srinivas, TG Venkatesh, Vishwaroop is particularly known to be under surveillance. The congress high command observers are of the opinion that Shailajanath, Ganta Srinivas and Viswaroop are all eventually going to join the YSRCP sooner than expected. Others like Vatti Vasanth Kumar, Raghuvendra Reddy, Pithani Satyanarayana are close followers of KVP and would wait for his directions. However, Kanna Laxminarayana, Bosta Satyanarayana, Manikya Varaprasad, Galla Aruna, P Balaraju and Anam Ramnarayan Reddy would not do anything that annoys the party high command. Others like Kondru Muralimohan, Thota Narasimham, K Parthasarathy, Erasu Pratap Reddy and M Maheeder Reddy would go with the Chief Minister. Ministers from Kadapa district, while endowments minister C Ramachandriah would go with his leader Chiranjeevi other one like Ahmedulla would wait for some more clarity.





State Bifurcation: A long process with enough scope

There is still time, to look into all minute details of the bifurcation. The status of Hyderabad as the common capital of both the states for a period of 10 years is outlined as the basis for split, but many other details are still to be worked out. The CWC has made it clear that all Constitutional formalities would be followed before Telangana state was formed. That means, a Group of Ministers (GoM) will be formed to finalize the division of the state related issues, and an official committee will be set up to sort out issues like income/revenue from various taxes, debts, expenditure and special assistance needed for new capital and other infrastructure. Moreover, the Centre will send the draft resolution to the state assembly for its opinion and both houses of the Parliament would debate the whole issue thoroughly enabling the government to make necessary changes.

So, there are enough opportunities to the leaders of Seemandhra to highlight their demands, problems, and other related issues on the bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh. The MLAs and MPs of Seemandhra will get three chances to debate on each and every issue of their concern – once in the assembly and each time in the two houses of the Parliament. The Seemandhra government employees and other workers and general public have every right to represent their issues before these parliamentary forums. They can as well send their memoranda and petitions to the Group of Ministers and the official committee that is to be formed by the Central government before passing the Bill.

But, the employees and workers were egged on to go for a strike bypassing all other options. This is a mischievous move fraught with several damages. However, the Congress high command has formed

another party committee headed by Defense Minister AK Antony to sort out issues amongst the belligerent congress ministers and leaders from Seemandhra region. Other senior leaders like Ahmed Patel, Digvijay Singh and Veerappa Moily are the members of the Antony Committee. This committee is an additional step to sort out the doubts of Seemandhra people through their congress representatives. At the same time, it was adequately made clear by the AICC functionaries that the Seemandhra people should not forget that this committee is not meant to re-open the decision of Telangana formation, but it is only aimed at looking to their genuine demands in the wake of the division of the State.

The Antony committee has refused to visit parts of Andhra Pradesh, for a valid reason. If the panel comes to Andhra Pradesh, the passions may be flared up and violence may rock to impress on the committee members. That would serve no purpose. Instead the committee has decided to hear all objections and doubts of Seemandhra, or for that matter those of Telangana, by sitting in Delhi only.

We should not forget that all these objections are not wrong. But their fears and misconceptions are based on wrong notions and ill conceived fears. As there is no one to clarify their doubts and worries, these people are losing sleep over Telangana state formation. These protestors have become pawns in the hands of Seemandhra political leaders



who have vested interests to protect in the wake of division of the State.

According to a survey conducted by the CESS (Hyderabad based Centre for Economic and Social Sciences), only a tiny minority, may be around 10,000 big investors who have stakes in Hyderabad city will be affected if Telangana state is formed. Even then, their interests will not be jeopardized, but just their profits may not grow, that's all. Out of them, only around 1,000 industrialists and big businessmen like Lanco Rajagopal, Kavuri Sambasiva Rao, Rayapati Sambasvia Rao, T Subbarami Reddy, GV Krishna Reddy, MVS Murty, Sujana Chowdary and TG Venkatesh, Magunta Srinivasa Reddy, Mekapati Rajamohan Reddy (most of them either MPs or ministers) are concerned about their business future.

Other small business leaders are not going to lose anything, even after Telangana state is formed. In fact, none of the non-Telugu businessmen have lost their businesses after Hyderabad State was merged with Andhra Pradesh in 1956. The then Hyderabad state included several big business houses from Marathi and Kannada speaking backgrounds. The Gujaratis and Marwadi business people are not bothered at all. The whole drama of building a fear psychosis is at best a ruse to continue to exploit the resources of Telangana people. There are scores of Telugu people, who remained in Madras even after the formation of Andhra state in October, 1953. It is only the employees and politicians who have to shift in search of their career prospects. What difference does it make for any other person?

It is a fact that all the top leaders of Seemandhra - including CM Kiran Kumar Reddy, PCC chief Botsa Satyanarayana, all Union Ministers including Chiranjeevi and Opposition leader Chandrababu Naidu and YSR Congress leadership including Jagan – knew well in advance that Congress was going to form Telangana state at any cost before the general elections. But they kept quiet, fearing backlash in Telangana region. Now, these same leaders are shedding crocodile tears to the Seemandhra agitations, only to bag their votes from the region. Employees and general public of Seemandhra should realize this farce and come forward to solve all their genuine demands in the wake of Telangana state formation. Strikes or agitations without legitimate demands are a mere waste of time, energy and money. Real leaders of any region will strive to educate their people and guide them towards peace and prosperity. The demand of the Seemandhra agitation to keep the state of Andhra Pradesh united amounts to defeating the legitimate demand of the people of Telangana to have their own identity and self rule guaranteed by the Indian constitution to federal states under Article 246. The agitation by the Seemandhra employees cannot impact the union government's decision to grant statehood to Telangana. The consequences of any reversal would more likely result in a civil war between people of two regions. This is not desired and cannot be allowed. Responsible stake holders must play the role of statesmen to dispel ill conceived fears among the agitators. ♦

Is Kiran becoming 'Chief Administrator' of Joint Capital?

By Dr TSP Reddy

We all know that Hyderabad city is going to be the joint capital for upcoming new states of Telangana and Seemandhra. The question is "how it can and will be administered" in the midst of two chief ministers criss-crossing the capital city on daily basis? The scheme of the Indian constitution doesn't have any provisions indicating such type of governance that is neither a state nor a union territory as defined under Article I of the Indian Constitution. Such a joint capital without being an Union Territory and to be administered by a Chief Administrator under the strict supervision of the central government is not an easy job considering the gamut of issues relating to Policing, Municipal Administration, governing Educational Institutions and Health care — all directly impacting residents of the capital territory that is besides required to serve people of two new states of Telangana and Andhra. This kind of arrangement was never there in India till now. The news about Hyderabad city functioning as a joint capital without being a union territory is something which is baffling to many constitutional experts.

Well the 'confidential' information coming from union home ministry officials is that it will be a union territory administered by the central government for a limited period of 10 years under the stewardship of a Chief Administrator (CA) which sounds funny and exciting too. Now, the need is for having a person who can genuinely protect the interests



of Seemandhra people in the joint capital of the two new states that have to govern from Hyderabad that is located in the middle of Telangana state. If there is one person best suited for this job according to the Sri Krishna Committee's erstwhile members, it is Nallari Kiran Kumar Reddy.

The man who was Chief Whip and now

Chief Minister and now proposed for the Chief Administrator post. The Union Home Ministry is of the opinion that Kiran Kumar Reddy is comfortable with important leaders like Chandra Babu Naidu of the TDP and YS Jaganmohan Reddy of the YSRCP and as such would be compelled to accept this responsibility in the interests of the

Seemandhra people. Kiran Reddy being a true Hyderabadi, having been born and brought up in Hyderabad — will he accept this crucial responsibility? It is said that there is a huge competition from many political heavyweights to shoulder this responsibility. Interestingly, former Chief Minister for 30 days Nadendla Bhasker Rao is also eying this post. For this, he is known to be seeking the support of MIM brothers who are concerned about the status of joint capital without being designated as a UT.

The Chief Administrator will be enjoying a unique position and status that is much superior to a Lt Governor. The 'CA' would have a huge secretariat with two important advisors of the rank of Chief Secretary and a Major General from the army who will be stationed in the Secunderabad cantonment specifically to assist the Chief Administrator in maintaining peace, regulating traffic and manning the security of the CA.

The joint capital administration will also have a Director General of Special Police Force to be created for this purpose. The DG will not have powers or responsibility to maintain law and order but will have a role of providing security services to the requirements of administration under the CA. Most of the staff are likely to be drafted on deputation only from the existing employment. A ratio of 40:60 shall be maintained in all departments between the Telangana and Andhra staffers. ♦

Fate of Danam, Mukesh, Vishnu & Owaisi brothers after State Division

By DP Desk

Rumours are agog that Hyderabad is going to be a Union Territory for 10 years with effect from 9th December, 2013 to 9th December, 2023. Which part of Hyderabad is going to be the UT is a million dollar question which is giving sleepless nights to politicians and political parties in Hyderabad. According to DP sources, only Hyderabad Revenue District (and not GHMC or HMDA area) is going to function as the capital for the new states of Telangana & Seemandhra. What will happen to our Hon'ble Ministers representing Hyderabad district in case of Hyderabad district becoming a UT is something which is disturbing every MLA in the Hyderabad city.

Can they continue as MLAs in the state of Telangana or if not what could be their fate? Asad will not have any problem in continuing as MP from Hyderabad Lok Sabha. However, Akbar must make the

choice of trying for Secunderabad Lok Sabha with the help of either congress or YSRCP or become Mayor of Hyderabad City that is going to have just 100 wards and a huge finan-

cial package. Danam in all likelihood may wish to become the Mayor of Hyderabad which is going to be the most powerful position after the Chief Administrator. It appears

that only Mukesh is left out in the scheme of things. If the congress leadership desires not to punish him for his too close relationships with Jagan — then he might be considered for the post of Deputy Mayor. If not, then Mukesh has a chance of becoming MP from Secunderabad Parliament constituency representing YSRCP. Vishnu is all set to move over to Serilingampally if his Jubilee Hills constituency bars him to become a MLA.

BJP's Kishan Reddy is already concentrating on Malkajgiri. Shankar Rao will once again go to Mahaboobnagar district. None knows what Shashidhar wants after T-state comes. Every one is aware that he was dead opposed to formation of Telangana state. Any how, he is an expert in managing disasters. He will do his best the way he has done in Uttarakhand. Good luck to city leaders. ♦



STF Police becoming tool for settling personal scores with RTI activists

By Our Crime Correspondent

It appears that the Commissioner's Task Force has formed a new unit in the name of Special Task Force (STF) to put a check on the unlawful and illegal activities taking place in Hyderabad City. Ironically, this specially constituted team is being used for settling personal scores due to personal vengeance. It has come to light that some notorious corrupt officials working in various government departments are influencing this team to intimidate the Information Seekers who have turned RTI activists under the Right to Information Act, 2005. The trend of RTI activists coming to people's rescue is not only being admired by the people but also appreciated by the judiciary. However, corrupt officials unable to bear the indulgence of RTI activists are inventing ways and means to create obstacles by targeting Information seekers striving to expose corruption in government departments.

The modus operandi of this team is that they call the social and RTI activists and tell them that a petition/complaint is given against them and they need to enquire into the matter

personally. Further, they ask the targeted victim (an RTI activist) to come to some restaurant and ask them irrelevant questions but never disclose what kind of complaint has been made and under what allegations the IS/victim is being questioned. The so called STF personnel frightens the victim that a complaint has come from other state or Delhi and the DGP and the city Police Commissioner have ordered for a probe in the same and thus they ask the IS/RTI activist/victim to answer the irrelevant questions sought by them. The most important and interesting part of this drama is that these officials does not ask the victim to come to their office and they never meet the people at their office for fear of getting exposed.

It has come to light that this practice is becoming rampant and harassment of Information seekers under RTI is being used to settle personal grudges of the corrupt officials against whom departmental enquiries have been initiated and those who have been transferred from focal to non focal and less

important places and positions. The common public goes through a tough time to book a FIR or a police complaint, even important issues like loss of valuable articles, certificates and motor vehicles. Most often, they need to be recommended by some politician or highly placed officials or influential local leaders to get these FIRs registered. But when it comes to representing the corrupt officials, these over enthusiastic STF personnel do not bother about the credibility of the complainant and act very swiftly just to harass the RTI Activists who care a damn about paying mamools to these personnel.

The top police bosses must and should keep a tab on the activities of their subordinate officials to find out whether any of them are indulging in illegal activities like these; but the unholy nexus will continue to thrive between these Specially earmarked forces and other government officials as long as their bosses look the other way. Instead if the top cops begin monitoring their personnel it will encourage the Social and RTI Activists to unearth and expose many kinds of illegal

practices in the government departments and also discourage the people who want to intimidate people in the name of police inquiry.

It appears that the police bosses are unaware of the unethical practices of these personnel and that's the reason these kinds of atrocities are going unreported. The people of Hyderabad urge the police top brass to monitor these unscrupulous activities of the teams which have powers to investigate and enquire and ensure that the grievances of the people are addressed first and law and order is maintained at any cost by putting a check on the unlawful activities even done by their own departmental officials in the name of police bosses or else there is very danger to the life, liberty, respect, reputation and dignity to the citizens who are striving against corruption and making their contribution to achieve a corruption free and transparent administrative system in the state. ♦

BJP's T-Cadre feel Venkaiah Naidu misled Modi to safeguard TDP and Babu

Modi got TDP-fied?

By Shivkant Bichkunda

Ever since the congress announced its decision on carving out state of Telangana, Venkaiah Naidu is increasingly appearing a bitter man unable to swallow the bitter pill. His body language during the debate on Telangana in the Rajya Sabha few days ago conveyed everything Venkaiah feels for. In contrast to Leader of the opposition in the Rajya Sabha - Arun Jaitely and BJP In-charge of AP affairs, Prakash Javedkar's spirited demand over steps to be taken to carve out the state of Telangana; Venkaiah Naidu's visible resentment looked more like a Seemandhra TDP MP (a la Harikrishna or CM Ramesh) who are mourning the loss of opportunities in Telangana.

Everyone knows that lakhs of people in Telangana were looking forward to hear Narendra Modi's speak on Telangana state formation even after the congress high command announced its support for Telangana State on 30th July. Well, Modi arrived on 11th August, (two weeks later) instead of 27th July, as was originally scheduled. There was a lot of euphoria in Telangana region as the youth of Telangana region nursed high hopes over Modi's expression of support for T-statehood amidst the Seemandhra agitation launched by businessmen-politicians of Seemandhra region. Though, the congress high command at last announced its decision to form Telangana state. Yet the euphoria for Modi's



Telangana talk on 'T'-state was no less; but he arrived and had lunch with Seemandhra businessmen at a star hotel, he discussed with them and seems got convinced by them as to what his stand over State division must be. Modi, then arrived at the Lal Bahadur Stadium where youth were seen eagerly waiting for hours. But, Modi delivered a damp squib speech more filled with rhetorical nonsense of "Congress Bashing" rather than addressing challenges in a realistic manner. Modi in the end, left thousands of youth gathered over there and watching over TVs truly disappointed. The media was more excited than the large contingent of youth.

The youth looked thoroughly disappointed. Even the BJP cadres appeared dampened in their moods. Many who attended the meeting remarked that - Modi failed to be emphatic; he could neither wholeheartedly support nor oppose statehood for Telangana.

His Jai Telangana and Jai Seemaandhra slogans had no takers except those who came at the behest of Venkaiah Naidu. Many among the BJP workers wondered what went wrong with Modi being so meek in his support for Telangana? In fact, many BJP workers were shocked to see Modi lavishly praising Late NTR reckoned for his stringent anti-

congressism. Well, insiders in BJP are blaming BJP veteran Venkaiah Naidu for Modi's lackluster speech. BJP cadres were seen blaming Venkaiah Naidu for turning Modi's visit to Hyderabad a pure corporate affair instead of revealing his vision for tackling wide ranging challenges confronting the nation. The whole visit looked like a hidden purpose of meeting Andhra businessmen at Park Hyatt Hotel than anything else. It is a well known fact that the Andhra business lobby has strong influence over the TDP and its top leadership. For all those politicians who desired to join the BJP and encash Modi's magic in Telangana region are now a disappointed lot. Venkaiah Naidu is being thanked by Telugu Desham party leaders for being their savior once again. But many BJP leaders and party men are seen cursing their fate. They recall "Modi instead of "Mody-fying (modifying) got "TD-fied" (transformed) by the lure of power. It appears the T-region's BJP cadres are much better positioned than their Seemandhra fellow cadres as there is a saving factor for them in the form of new state of Telangana to taking shape in short span of few months, they can bid good bye to big brother Venkaiah Naidu but what about the BJP leaders in Seema-Andhra? Will they look towards YSRCP which is more anti-congress than the TDP? ♦

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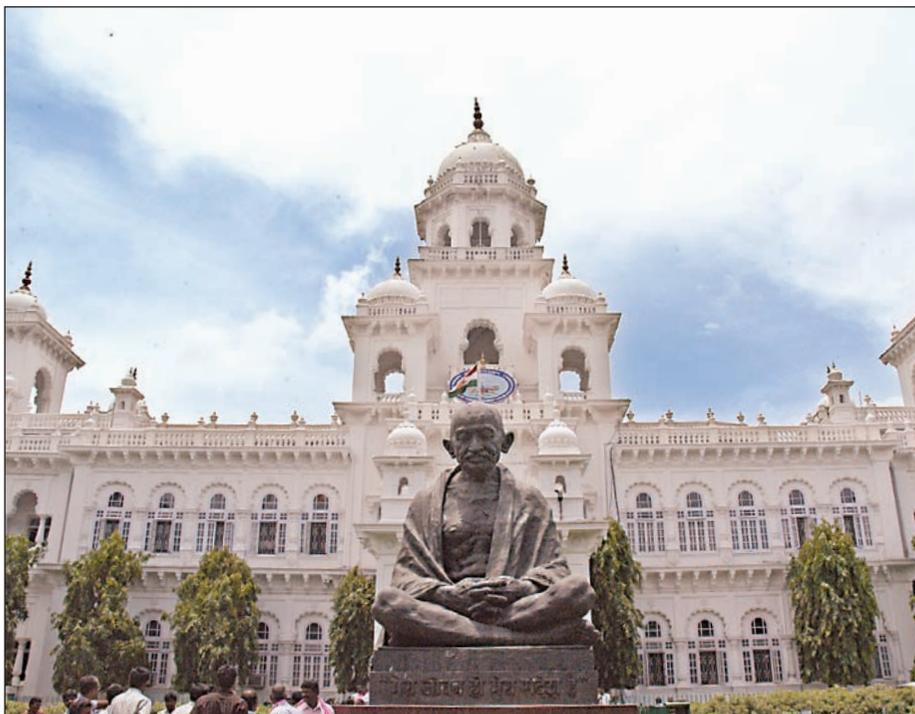
Common Capital is Cool

The Congress Working Committee (CWC)'s decision to keep Hyderabad as the common capital for both Telangana and Andhra Pradesh (Seemandhra) is a good proposal in the given situation. Though there were demands from Telangana leaders that the common capital cannot be there for more than five years or less than that, the proposal of 10 years time frame is quite reasonable.

The people of Telangana must be magnanimous on this issue. They should follow some give and take policy on the capital issue by sharing many facilities that are available. Especially at a time, when the Seemandhra people are agitating over Hyderabad, it may not be possible for them to leave this city in a huff and build another city with all facilities and logistics in a time that is inadequate.

Moreover, Hyderabad has enough infrastructure and stamina to be the common capital for both the new born states. The Assembly buildings complex has two Houses and the Secretariat has enough infrastructures i.e. 10 - 12 blocks with scores of floors to meet the requirements of the two regions. There is also adequate space to build new blocks too, if needed.

Eminent scholars and experts from Seemandhra region have slowly realized the need for peaceful parting away of both the regions. As senior analyst V Hanumantha Rao remarked, Hyderabad and Secunderabad, famous as twin cities, can be made to accommodate the necessities of two states. If Hyderabad is made as the capital of



Telangana, Secunderabad is the capital of Andhra Pradesh or Seemandhra State.

Or the other way round. There is no harm in adjusting this way or that way. Seemandhra employees and leaders can make suggestions for their better functioning from this city. Similarly, other institutions like High Court and the residences for the two Governors too can be apportioned in a

friendly manner. After all, several of these institutions that have come up after 1956 are the assets of both the regions.

An official committee comprising leaders and employees of both regions can be put in place to identify the buildings and structures to allocate them to different institutions and offices. Naturally, as Seemandhra size and needs will be bigger, the

space occupied by them will be bigger. For instance, the Assembly structure of Seemandhra will have to accommodate 175 MLAs. While the legislature of Telangana will have to accommodate only 119 MLAs, therefore, the present Assembly complex can be given to Seemandhra Assembly along with the Legislative Council as a gracious gesture. The Telangana Assembly can be shifted to Ravindra Bharati along with private premises adjoining it can also be converted into the Assembly complex within 4-6 months.

As an expert suggested, the common capital idea is also an opportunity for people of both the regions to live together peacefully. There are around 120 heads of departments and independent and autonomous institutions in Hyderabad. They can have double offices. Instead of creating problems on the division of these offices, Telangana people can cooperate with Seemandhra colleagues on this.

Telangana people should be contended as their decades long dream of having their own state is becoming a reality in a few months. The decision is irreversible and the process is on. Now, what remains are just technicalities or formalities as per the provisions of the Indian Constitution. This phase will be carried out in a just manner only if both sides remain dignified and nice to each other. That's been the cultural heritage of Hyderabad. Hopefully it is continued despite tough situations. ♦

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CM Kiran feels checkmated?

With reference to your last week's cover story I must say that your understanding of the political happenings and analyzing the same is extra ordinary and beyond any comparison to any other newspaper. As the things were going everyone expected that CM Kiran Kumar Reddy as well as the PCC President Botsa Satyanarayana are strongly opposing the formation of Telangana state even after knowing well that the congress party chief Sonia, CWC, UPA and many other political parties have supported the demerger of the Telangana region from the present Andhra Pradesh state. It was clearly visible to see disappointed CM Kiran when he organized a press conference after 8 days of silence and raised so many issues pertaining to the problems in a new state. But that too, proved useless and helpless to a checkmated chief minister. It is being heard in the political circles that CM Kiran has got close proximity with late YSR family and on the behest of YS Jagan the things are being directed. Now its very much clear that Kiran Kumar Reddy

will be the last CM of Andhra Pradesh and he has been completely checkmated by the congress party high command which made him the Chief Minister despite so many objections from other senior congress leaders. I believe Kiran should have followed the directions of the high command which would have helped him in atleast continuing as Seemandhra Chief Minister till next elections.

K Yadagiri Rao, Erramanzil

State Govt's double standards

I strongly agree with Deccan Post's last week article on the excessive sale of liquor and the over enthusiastic gesture of the Traffic police in the Hyderabad city. Its quite pathetic to say that the traffic police personnel are extorting money from the youth in the name of drunk and driving even in the day light at 4 PM on roads connecting to Kondapur, Madhapur, Hi-tech City, Jubilee Hills, Gachibowli, Miyapur, Punjagutta etc. The AP state government must come with a comprehensive policy on the controlled

sales and serving of liquor in the city then only there will be a decrease of drunk and drive cases as well as any untoward accidents taking place on already congested and badly damaged roads of the Hyderabad city. I am also in total agreement that the government should conduct awareness program in colleges, universities, offices and educate people about the menace of drunk and driving. I must appeal to all the news publications as well as the news and TV channels to follow Deccan Post and take an initiative against the excessive liquor sales and menace of the after affects.

Simanthini, E-mail

India must be tough

I am a regular reader of Deccan Post but I am sorry to say that its not available everywhere and I had to travel a distance to get a copy. I take this pain

because of the wonderful topics DP covers and focus. Your last week's editorial was very important as the neighbouring countries like Pakistan and China are violating the laws and trying to intimidate Indian soldiers and acting so brutally by attacking the posts in Jammu & Kashmir. The Union Government should not compromise with the sovereignty of the nation and should teach a fitting lesson to the violators. I personally believe that our Prime Minister should not meet his Pakistani counterpart until and unless Pakistan ends the violations of the seize fires and cooperate in curbing terrorism outfits which are operating from its soil. The Chinese army also should not enter the Indian territory otherwise they must also face the consequences.

Bajrang Singh, Hyderguda

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

letters
TO THE EDITOR



State division will stop exploitation of Telangana besides immensely benefitting Seemandhra in many ways

By Dr T Siva Prasad Reddy - Special Correspondent

Seemandhra Prospers after 1956, more rapidly after 1971-72: Since 1956 Andhra Pradesh State formation more than 9 cities or towns in Seemandhra regions have reached a stage wherein they can attain independent economical status as big cities on par or with Hyderabad indeed. They are Vizag, Rajahmundry, Kakinada, Vijayawada, Guntur, Nellore, Tirupati, Kurnool, Kadapa to name the most developed and developing in Seemandhra region besides many other towns trying to break into such big league. After AP State Formation, majority of funds were utilized to develop Seemandhra region as seen from the details of spending area wise alongside the borrowed amounts spent as per the available records. The irony of all these is that it is Telangana's nine districts excluding Hyderabad that have been contributing more revenue than Seemandhra region and that tells the entire story as to why Telangana people continue to suffer from such economic crisis. Add Hyderabad – a capital city (state by itself) as was before 1956, then one can understand why Telangana always remained in surplus before 1956 and till 1972 (TDB - Telangana Development Board) when it had its own budget estimates as per Gentlemen's Agreement till Seemandhra rulers sensing the future troubles disbanded unilaterally.

How does one read into such abolition of TDB - constitutionally accorded body soon after 1971-72 (to dilute excesses/gains of 1969 Telangana Agitation) Jai Andhra agitation alongside abolition of Mulki Rules paving way for 6 point formula.? While Telangana reeled under intense internal strife courtesy revolutionary radical movements (Naxalism), Seemandhra progressed in all directions as one after the other leading Telangana stalwarts (1969 clan) fell victims to such. Systematically 'T' leaders from Adilabad to Warangal and Mahabubnagar were annihilated by naxallites as they thought they would fight for due water share in Krishna and Godavari basins. A transparent and unbiased investigation would expose as to who remained behind such violent chaotic situation in Telangana region. Entire Telangana remained in the grip of fear and absolute disorder. Add to this, landlords and bonded labour struggle which was duly highlighted by many a famed film personalities mostly from Seemandhra while forgetting or deliberately ignoring their own crusade against oppressed/down-trodden as seen in Karamchedu, Tsundur (many like that) carnage. This naturally emboldened politicians, bureaucracy, businessmen alongside media from Seemandhra to divert all the funds for developing their region silently at the cost of suffering of Telangana.

This is the period when most of the projects, jobs alongside investments were cornered by people from Seemandhra region. Many a politico-business-administrator-media lobby from Seemandhra prospered by pampered contracts in such rebuilding silently. This politico-economic might of Seemandhriles dominated Telangana till recently when a popular uprising started since 2001. Seemandhriles have cleverly destroyed all public sector undertakings (PSU) in and

around Hyderabad to deprive Telanganites of regular employment thereby occupying that space by setting up private sectors dominated by employees from their region. Thus, silently and in a methodical way, Andhra region prospered more than Rayalaseema as Andhriles allowed rulers from Seema region to take the mantle. That is how Vizag Steel Plant (VSP), TTD, Ports, Airports, KG-Basin Gas exploration etc to name a few were grounded creating permanent employment to Seemandhriles while developing their area while contributing little- revenue wise to the state exchequer..!?

While Seema was and is being pictured as a faction ridden region by Andhra film makers (money from politico-business from Andhra) to stave the challenge of equi-development and funds dominated T region also by employing their clan in media and else where..! As such, they have excess power and vast developed coastline alongside gas and oil with doubled employment and resources. Now just add an industry to these (9 or more)

their secured agri-employment/revenue into shambles..!

Who are the end beneficiaries? Seemandhra business men-like Lagadapati, Rayapati, Kavuri, Mekapati, GVKs, Subbirami and now joined by Nara family, YSR family, all these are ruling the roost by acquiring large land holdings along with necessary permissions but inactive in SEZ's in and around Hyderabad, RR, Mahabubnagar, Medak etc in a clandestine way flouting the very rules and regulations. While the other parts in Telangana region struggled for want of resources like power, water, health and sanitation as they had to depend on bores as the tanks went dry and the rainfall scarce debilitating yield and income from agriculture. While the tanks, wells, drip irrigation practiced in Telangana have been brought under Minor Irrigation but the Projects and Canals alongside its constituents were brought under Major Irrigation with assured waters and majority of funds..! While precious lands in Telangana region were inundated and are still

July-2013? Naturally and expectedly everyone should welcome the bifurcation as it would lead all round development of all areas as the merger was conditional and the facts and figures also relate to the progressive development of Seemandhra region then, now and in the future. Then why this furor now- is it because of the fear that it would become evident about projects on so called surplus waters like-Pothireddypadu, Pulichintala (abandoning Tailpond project which would have benefitted Telangana) alongside various lift projects while cleverly not allowing Telangana to utilize its assured water? Or is it because of the fear that huge public money from banks stashed away by mortgages of precious T lands and other means flouting all rules by Seemandhra-politico-business-administrator-media nexus to further their selfish agenda? Otherwise how can a wishful public benefit oriented mindset Seemandhra-politico-business-administrator-media nexus can shy away from the benefits of a new state with a new capital, separate budget, HC and lots and lots of infrastructural development



Seemandhra cities, they would become self sustainable economic giants independently in their own way..! Capital city also would certainly boost infrastructural development in Seemandhra region while contributing to the employment and revenue generation. So, win and win situation from all angles in Seemandhra after bifurcation in comparison to Telangana. In contrast what is there in Hyderabad and Telangana when compared to pre-1956 position? All PSUs in and around Hyderabad have become obsolete, Land bank in and around Hyderabad has been manipulated to benefit Seemandhriles depriving Telanganites of their age old rights. An international airport comes in and around Hyderabad-Ranga Reddy, but the aborigine Telanganites who were holding fort in the precincts till recently indulging in floriculture, horticulture are cleverly dispossessed of their land holdings for a song in the name of Extension of Airport-ORR, SEZ's throwing

being used (Polavaram, Pulichintala etc) for the assured water projects for Seemandhra region alongside diversion of huge funds, Telangana region still remains parched and dry as its share of assured waters from Krishna, Godavari and Tungabhadra remained only on paper...!?

Already Telangana-erstwhile Hyderabad state lost its gravity projects-Alamatti on Krishna and Babli on Godavari to Karnataka and Maharashtra in a now famed quid-pro-quo act by Seemandhra politico-business-administrator-media nexus to further their interests in their region- a clandestine selfish act now threatening their own purpose and that of Telangana ahead of assured bifurcation/demerger of state. When such is the scenario as reflected in realistic terms how is that Seemandhra politico-business-administrator-media nexus reacting in this emotionally hyped way as seen in their protests post 30th

paving way for assured employment and revenues while enjoying the assured share of waters as per the national river authority's guidelines vis-à-vis states while bossing over their treasured natural resources like KG-Basin, Granite and Mineral reserves..?

No one was left in doubt by BJP's star campaigner Modi on his first successful campaign (as youth stormed by contributing entry fee to take care of Char Dham victims) in Hyderabad on August 11th that they stood for bifurcation of state and would support any cause in that direction as already promised by the party. He wished that both Telangana and Seemandhra would prosper in the future and that they should not lose any opportunity of peaceful co-existence. He also reminded Seemandhra brethren of how strategically advantageous the coastal region would be in the future. ♦



Learn to use and Re-use water

By Jaywant Naidu

Usage of recycled wastewater for irrigation, landscaping, industry and toilet flushing, is a good way to conserve fresh water resources. Recycled water is also used to replenish sensitive ecosystems where wildlife, fish and plants are left vulnerable when water is diverted for urban or rural needs. In coastal areas, recycled water helps recharge groundwater aquifers to prevent the intrusion of saltwater, which occurs when groundwater has been over pumped.

Recycling worldover:

The use of recycled water for drinking is not common as many people are repelled by the thought of water that's been in our toilets going to our taps. Singapore, Australia, Namibia, and states such as California, Virginia and New Mexico are already drinking recycled water, demonstrating that purified wastewater can be safe and clean, and help ease water shortages. Recycled water that ends up in drinking water undergoes extensive and thorough purification and is usually added to groundwater or surface water for further cleansing before being sent to a drinking water supply where it is again treated. In fact, it has been shown to have fewer contaminants than existing treated water supplies. Sewage first goes through advanced primary treatment in which water is separated from large particles,

then enters sedimentation tanks where chemicals are used to make primary sludge settle to the bottom and scum rise to the top. Once the water is separated out, 80% of the solids have been removed, and the wastewater is clean enough to be discharged to the ocean. In secondary treatment, bacteria are added to the wastewater to ingest organic solids, producing secondary sludge that settles to the bottom. Tertiary treatment filters the water to remove whatever solids remain, disinfects it with chlorine, and removes the salt. For Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR)- recycled water that eventually becomes drinking water - tertiary - treated water undergoes advanced water technology, then spends time in groundwater or surface water, such as a reservoir, before being sent to drinking water supplies. Advanced water technology first involves microfiltration that strains out any remaining solids. Next, reverse osmosis, which applies pressure to water on one side of a membrane allowing pure water to pass through, eliminates viruses, bacteria, protozoa, and pharmaceuticals. The water is then disinfected by ultra violet light (UV) or ozone and hydrogen peroxide. Finally, it is added to groundwater or surface water reservoirs where it stays for an average of 6 months to be further purified by natural processes.

Singapore, with no natural aquifers

and a small landmass, has struggled to provide a sustainable water supply for its residents for decades. In 2003, it opened the first plants to produce NEWater, recycled drinking water purified by advanced membrane techniques including microfiltration, reverse osmosis and UV disinfection. After treatment, the water is added to the reservoirs. NEWater, which has passed more than 65,000 scientific tests and surpasses World Health Organization drinking water standards, is clean enough to be used for the electronics industry and to be bottled as drinking water. It is expected to produce 2.5% of Singapore's total daily consumption this year.

Namibia, the most arid country in southern Africa, has been drinking recycled water since 1969. The water reclamation plants produce 35% of the water for Windhoek, the capital city. To date, there have been no negative health impacts connected with the consumption of recycled water.

Recycling in India - some examples:

At a time when Nagpur Municipal Corporation (NMC) has drawn a plan to recycle waste water to reclaim historic Nag River, the Nagpur division of Central Railway is perhaps the first institution to do so and is already recycling 5 lakh litres per day. The

Central Railway is making good use of waste water flowing from Chamar Nala near its premises. The plant was set up in 2003, but it is being used to its full potential after revival a couple of years ago.

The recycled water is used to wash aprons, platforms and passenger train coaches. The water used for these purposes is retained back in the nullah and recycled again through various processes. The Central Railway has been charged commercial rate of Rs 5 per liter by the civic body. At this rate, they save at least Rs 25,000 per day by recycling 5 lakh litre waste water daily. The sewage treatment technology has brought down the biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) to a tolerable level of 30 BOD. After utilizing around 4 lakh litres recycled water at the station to clean seven platforms and tracks and wash at least 10 trains, the railways still has surplus one lakh litres water. Environment-friendly initiatives, rainwater harvesting and recycling waste water flowing from bathroom and kitchens at Ajni railway quarters is also being done. Nearly 30 lakh litres of rainwater is being harvested at Ajni loco shed from around 3,000 sq metre of roof area. Besides, 25,000 litres of waste water from kitchens and bathrooms from around 200 quarters is treated at Ajni colony and utilized for gardening and watering sports ground. The Nagpur Central Railway is working

in collaboration with National Environment Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) to set up a pilot project at Ajni to treat sewage water. Central Railway is part of the project called 'Natural water systems and treatment technologies', which proposes to treat domestic sewage using natural treatment technology at Ajni Colony where there are about 2,000 quarters spread in 9 sq km area.

The Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve (TATR) in Chandrapur and the Nagzira wildlife sanctuary in Gondia are developing an environment-friendly system for disposal of waste water for rest houses and staff quarters. The 'Phytoid' wastewater treatment technology will be procured from the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), Nagpur. The sewage water entering into the forests spoils its virginity and puts pressure on the ecosystem. Using wastewater technology is part of the new ecotourism guidelines. The TATR is already using Neeri-Zars; portable instant water purification system developed by NEERI, for its protection huts. 'Phytoid' technology is a cost-effective, environment-friendly method for treating sewage and waste water. The technology is based on filtration and treatment capabilities of specific plants, which are cultivated in a plot or cement chambers created in case of bathroom or urinal water. Wastewater and sewage is then directed towards these tanks where the plants treat and filter the waste by removing pollutants.

Having consulted with Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS), a Government of India undertaking, and engineers of IIT-Roorkee, the Authority has decided that the new STPs will operate using the modern SBR technology. Noida Authority introduced the Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR) technology in two sewage treatment plants. The levels of organic pollutants in treated water have gone down and the average level of BOD in water has reduced to just about 10 mg per litre. Bio-chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) is one of the most common measures of pollutant organic material in water, low BOD signifies lesser polluted water. The Authority currently uses treated waste water to irrigate some green belts in the city. Excess water is released in Yamuna river. On an average, Noida generates about 100 MLD of sewage from domestic

waste water and 18 MLD from industrial waste water each day and according to the Noida Authority, by the year 2031, around 246 MLD of treated water will be available for use for construction, irrigation, watering private lawns or cleaning vehicles. To achieve the status of being a 'zero discharge' city, the Noida Jal Nigam has proposed to install four new sewage treatment plants (STP) with upgraded technology, at a cost of Rs 155 crores. As per the Master Plan 2021, the installation of these state-of-the-art STPs would not only guarantee a clean environment and ensure better quality of treated water, but also stop the use of ground water for irrigation. Currently, Noida has two plants, one of 34 MLD at sector 50 and the other of 27 MLD at sector 54. There are also two oxidation ponds of 9 MLD and 5 MLD located at sectors 54 and 91. The existing plants are all based on the Upflow Anaerobic Sludge Blanket (UASB) system - a technology which has become obsolete. The four additional and improved plants will incorporate an upgraded fully automated technology called Sequential Batch Reactor (SBR), technology. The SBR plant requires 1/9th of the space required by the UASB system and its latest technology allows removal of phosphorous and nitrogen, besides the odour.

Greywater recycling:

The term 'greywater' refers to non-industrial waste-water (the water that goes down the drain as you take showers, wash dishes or do laundry). The greywater recycling system only withdraws the water that flows through your home's drain pipes and helps to conserve it so that to use it again. The waste-water could be filtered by a filtration system which would be connected to your drainage pipes and then returns back into the home. The advantage of using grey water is that it can be used to water lawn or outdoor small plants or to flush toilets indoors but most the important thing that we can use it especially for cooking or drinking purposes.

How can we help in this process?

Recycling Water in the kitchen

1. Rinse your washed utensils in a plastic tub of water instead of using the dishwasher. Dishwashers, whether you load them fully or not, use a great deal of water. Best of all, you can use the rinsed water to water houseplants, or to clean sinks, toilets and floors. If the

water contains grease, add a few drops of lemon dish soap, or mild baby shampoo to make the water grease free.

2. Always rinse vegetables in a bowl of water instead of under the running tap. Save the water and use it in your garden. It doesn't matter if the water contains bits of mud or even veggie peels. All of it is good for your plants outside.

3. You can use the water in which you boil your pasta and use this starchy solution to prep your soups. You can also save the water leftover from boiling veggies, and add it to your soup stock. If you don't want to use saved cooking water in food, you can always use it to water plants, shrubs and herbs.

4. Don't throw away water that's been left out in glasses, half drunk. This water and the leftover water in half-drunk water bottles can be boiled and drunk again. If you don't want to drink water that's been left out, you can always use it to wash dishes.

Recycling Water in the bathroom

5. If you turn your shower on and let it run free it heats up, catch the free flowing water in a bucket. This is clean water and you can use it to feed outdoor plants, feed animals, water your lawn, trees and shrubs.

6. Instead of draining your bathtub after bathing, use it to clean tiles, mop floors, and wash your car or walls. You can even pour the used bath water into outdoor tree wells. Check with your plumber if he or she can fit your tub's outlet to an indoor or outdoor water recycling system. This way, when you finish your bath, you can turn on the recycling system to drain the water from your tub for other needs.

7. Take baths instead of using showers. Nearly 7 to 10 gallons of water is lost down the drain when you shower. When you take baths instead, you can save all the bathwater to water your lawns, wash your car and so on.

Recycling Water in your garage and driveway

8. When you wash your car with water and soap, let the soapy water drain into your lawn or into your shrubs. Soapy water won't hurt your lawn and shrub plants. Park your car close to your lawn and shrubs when you wash it.

9. Wash your car using water in buckets. This way you'll know how

many buckets of water you're using. When you hose your car down, you will lose sight of the gallons you'll be wasting.

10. Dry sweep your driveway instead of hosing it down. You can get best results if you dry sweep your driveway before you wash your car. That way, you can place your car in your driveway and wash it, allowing the soapy water to clean out your driveway.

Recycling Water using innovative recycling systems

11. You can help save several hundred gallons of fresh water in your home by installing a grey water recycling system. A grey-water recycling system can save 35% of bath and shower and over 30% of the water that you would otherwise flush down the drain. This system is connected to your home's plumbing system. It automatically treats used water from your kitchen, bathroom and laundry rooms for reuse.

12. When it rains, the water just goes straight in our sewerage system. That's so much clean, chemical free water that you could put to good use. Use rain collection barrels to collect rain water. If your area gets lot of rain, installing a rain harvesting system might be a good idea as well. You can use stored rain water to feed your livestock and water plants.

Recycling in your Garden

13. When you water your flower pots, excess water usually drains out. Place plastic buckets under the flower pots to capture this excess water and reuse it in your garden.

14. Plant smaller plants and shrubs close to your larger trees, shrubs and your lawn. This way, when you water your lawn or border shrubs, your herbs also will get some loving attention.

15. If you have a sizeable garden, it'll be a good idea to dig small ponds of a couple of feet in diameter and layer them in plastic. Dig these close to your shrubs and lawn. When it rains, excess water from lawns overflow and you can catch the water in these little ponds and use the water for to feed other plants.

Everyone must remember that we have the utmost responsibility to pass on good amount of water for our coming generations and their lives will be affected if we waste the precious natural gift of water. ✦

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Santa: Why Americans stop printing stamps with photo of Pamela Anderson?

Banta: Coz people started licking the wrong side of it for pasting them on the envelopes.

Dress code 4 a party - BLACK TIES ONLY.

Banta goes for the party & is surprised to see that the other guests are wearing SUITS also!

Santa: Oye, tu to Doctor ke paas jaane waala tha, kya hua?

Banta: Yaar kal jaaunga, aaj thodi tabiyat kharab hai.!

Santa Singh sends sms to all his friends...

"My cell no. has changed.. Earlier it was Nokia 1100.

Now, it is Nokia 6600."

NASA ne 3 Santa chaand pe bheje. Rocket uda, magar aadhe raste se vapas aa gaye!

Jab Santa ko pucha gaya, toh unhone kaha: 'AAJ Amawas hai, chaand to hoga hi nahi na'!!

2 Santa were watching a beautiful girl.

1st Santa - Kya maal hai yaar..!

2nd Santa - Arey haan. Maal se yaad aya "Bhabi ji kaisi hai. ...?"

Question By A STUDENT !!



If A Single Teacher Can't Teach Us All The Subjects, Then.. How Could You Expect A Single Student To Learn All Subjects??

Varalakshmi Vratam Celebrated With Grandeur



One of the most important Hindu festivals, Varalakshmi Vratam has been celebrated with grandeur in the abode of Goddess Padmavathi Devi, Tiruchanoor on Friday. Over five hundred couples took part in this mass Varalakshmi Vratam organised by TTD in Asthana Mandapam at temple town of



Tiruchanoor. The priests recited Varalakshmi Astottaram and performed the

Vratam by chanting the eight different forms of Goddess Lakshmi Devi including Sri (Wealth), Bhru (Earth), Sarasvati (learning), Priti (love), Kirti (Fame), Santi (Peace), Tushti (Pleasure) and Pushti (Strength) and sought Her blessings for the prosperity of humanity. The mass vratam which started at 10am continued till 12pm on Friday and it was spectacle for tens of thousands of eyes that converged to see the mightiness of one of the Consorts of Lord Venkateswara in dazzling jewels and colourful floral garlands and silk vastrams. TTD Chairman Sri K Bapiraju, DGP Sri Dinesh Kumar, Tirupati Urban SP Sri Rajsekhar Babu and others were also present. Later two Kankanams, Pasupu, Kumkuma, blouse and Uttariyam have been distributed to the couples who took part in the Vratam.

SUDOKU 283

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

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-282

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

Answer 282: Paremashwar, Kukatpally

ASTRO FOCUS

August 18-24, 2013

Aries: You would get better professional opportunities and accomplish the tasks entrusted to you in a better manner. Financially, your position will be sound and better than you had expected. Some challenging project will see you express your skills in a very different way. Your travel plans will proceed smoothly and you will conclude tasks on schedule.

Taurus: An opportunity to start a new venture with quick financial gains is likely. Going out with friends will be exciting and you will learn new and different skills. This week you'll have new experiences which will allow you to show your good points and your flair for long-term business. Spouse and children will be a source of immense happiness.

Gemini: You have enough confidence to maintain a positive attitude towards everything you do. Your sustained efforts would

achieve good results. This time period would be instrumental in making you more active and improving your creative skills and talents. The stars are also favorably disposed towards relationships between sexes.

Cancer: Leadership qualities and ability to understand people would benefit at work. Efforts at family front would enable to bring greater spontaneity and freedom in interaction with others. The day promises to bring prosperity and financial security. A Wonderful week ahead to look into the new courses that interest you. Enjoying a love ride would infuse a new spirit in relationship.

Leo: The efforts of people aspiring to join some kind of course are likely to be fulfilled. Money making efforts will be profitable provided you work on new ideas and plans. This seems to be an excellent time for you to do things

that will keep you relaxed and entertained. You nurture romantic friendship by amicably resolving all conflicts.

Virgo: Make sure your efforts are supplemented by positive thinking at workplace. Professional gains for some bring gains and prosperity. Your new ideas and technical knowledge will make a good impression on others. Residential moves and renovation during this period will prove well. Any other affair may also convert into a romantic affair and you may solemnize your marriage.

Libra: The work assigned to you this week might be a test of your expertise and knowledge. Therefore you should put all your efforts into this task. You would gain an upper hand in competitive and other challenging activities. Timely solution will bring happiness at home. Lucrative investment schemes will attract.

Scorpio: The period under consideration is favorable for

enjoying good health most of the time. Some information that you have in your hand too would prove beneficial. Your creative instincts would increase and some of you would receive wide acclaim in those activities. Joint ventures will make steady progress. Friends would try to keep you happy.

Sagittarius: Your optimism will win support of everyone around you. Students will feel motivated to study for better grades in exams or competitions. The next few days will see pressure on your work front arise giving you little time for recreational and other activities. At work you will be in the good books of your seniors and you will also benefit monetarily. You might experience occasional ups and downs on the health front during this week.

Capricorn: The week is quite favorable for you especially for developing cordial relationship with your superiors and higher ups and utilizing them to further your interests. Your pioneering efforts

are likely to earn you success and independence in your work. Before you embark on your adventure trip plan and prepare each and every thing.

Aquarius: The period is favorable and you will get an opportunity to recover your losses. You will be in a commanding position as your confidence and enthusiasm will be high. Important messages should be attended to immediately. Students are required to work hard to achieve their goals and objectives. Those in love can look forward to exciting evenings in the charming company of their sweetheart.

Pisces: The period is favorable for you and your social status and standing would further increase. In a way you are likely to gain the upper hand in almost every aspect of life. It may take some time but advance preparation would lead you to your desired goals. Some of you may have to undertake a long journey would be beneficial for you.

Peace and Unity through music

'Khartaal' wizard Bhunger Khan from Badmer District, Rajasthan spoke to Deccan Post about his magical talent of rhythms.

How has your training in 'Khartaal' been?

I hail from the Manganiar folk musician's community from the Badmer Dist. of Rajasthan. I have never received any formal training in any music school. In fact, in our community, all musicians learn from their parents or grand parents. It's an art form that gets passed on from one generation to another.

Can you tell us about your musical instrument?

The 'Khartaal' is made up of four thin flat wooden pieces, each about six inches in length and about half-a-centimeter in width and is made from the 'Sheesham' or Indian Rosewood.

Tell us about your traditional form of music?

We have been performing for the Rajput kings for centuries. Even today, we go to their households and perform during wedding and other functions. They are our 'Yajmans' and we go to their place for the performances. If we get any other program on the same date, we leave the outside programs as it is very important for us to be present at the Yajman's house on every auspicious occasion.

How easy is it to play your instrument?

I have been practicing it from a very young age.

Synchronisation of the finger movements comes by our hard work and today it is child's play for me.

Do you only play with traditional folk singers?

Not at all, I can play with any song whether Bollywood or Hollywood. I have played for Shankar Mahadevan in the movie 'Luck by Chance'. Of course, playing with traditional Manganiar singers is something very close to my heart. We have wonderful Sufi songs of many Saints like Bulleh Shah, Meera Bai and many others. There are songs in praise of Lord Rama, Lord Krishna and many other revered Saints. These songs give a wonderful message of peace and unity in life of a human being.

Any major festivals that you have performed?

I have performed in the Rajasthan International Folk Music Festival. I have also toured many countries like France, Russia, UAE, USA and UK. It's also a very interesting experience to play with many foreign artistes like Pete Locket who collaborate with folk musicians.

What are your upcoming projects?

I have recently performed in a video album 'Vande Mataram' which has been filmed at a beautiful heritage monument 'Taramati Baradari' at Hyderabad. I would like to take these wonderful rhythms of the 'Khartaal' all over the world. ♦

- JAYWANT NAIDU
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Why Nargis wants to remain single?



The one film old Nargis Fakhri, who will soon be seen in Madras Cafe opposite John Abraham, isn't too keen on tying the knot. In fact, the good looking actress doesn't believe in the institution of marriage and is willing to remain unmarried through out her life. In a recent interview Fakhri revealed her disinterest in marriage saying, "I don't believe in marriage. I don't come from the same culture. It doesn't make sense to me. So I have no plans to get married."

Apparently, Nargis parents separated when she was barely six years old. The actor loves her independence and says, "I want to be an independent woman. I will make my own career and money, so it's okay if I don't get married at all."

The actress who made her Bollywood debut with Rockstar opposite Ranbir Kapoor, has her plate full with films. Post Madras Cafe, the actress will be seen in Main Tera Hero with Varun Dhawan and the remake of Shaukeen opposite Akshay Kumar.

The 33-year-old actor is completely focused on her career and has no time for relationships. She says, "I am enjoying my career and doing the best that I can. I think I am doing well and have a couple of interesting projects coming up in the future. I think I am going to stay here for long."



Why Sherlyn wants to be in news?

She only wants an excuse to stay in the news. Sherlyn Chopra, who is busy with her upcoming flick Kamasutra 3D, has tweeted yet another sleazy picture of herself in her birthday suit, leaving no stone unturned to get noticed.

The desperate damsel is seen sitting with a cup of coffee placed on her lap, carefully covering her assets with her long hair. Sherlyn tweeted, "Hey ya!!! Have been filming the Epic Film since 8AM this morning. Coffee break toh banta hai ab... What r u upto..?"

Her photo didn't go down really well with her fans. They slammed her for this shameless act. Yet, despite all the bashing, the publicity hungry Sherlyn tweeted the picture again and said, "Why dis picture making' so much noise?!?!? Its just plain black coffee.. Datz all."

Looks like this sexy babe is happy shedding clothes and is only waiting for an excuse to do so.

-DP Desk



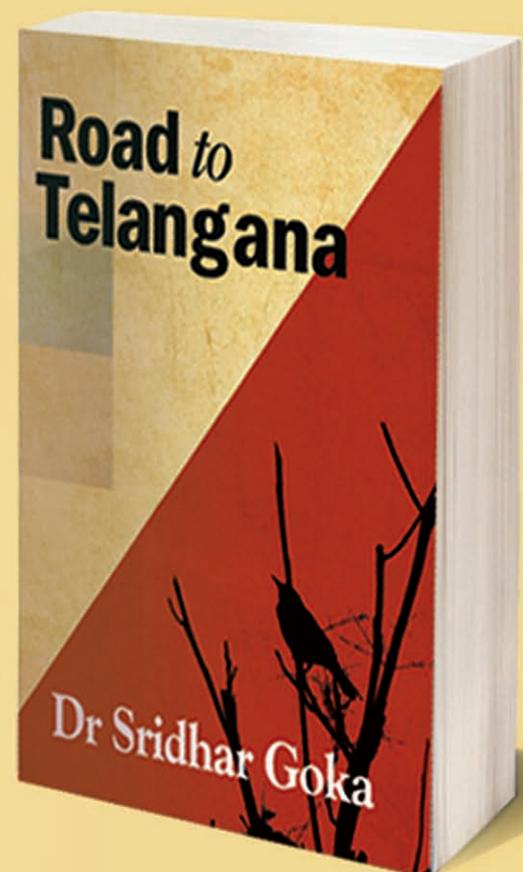
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Market slides again

By V Sundar Raja

Stock market indicator Sensex has again failed to sustain, after an earlier minor uptrend of nearly 1,000 points, in just four trading sessions. Market sentiment has again turned extremely negative with a strong downtrend on Friday 16th August, one of the biggest falls in the last few years, raising fresh concerns to the investors.

Market declined due to various factors, with the Banking sector stocks taking the worst hit. The American stock market which was seen strong in the last few months, has witnessed a sharp slide, perhaps for the first time in recent months, indicating a possible correction, in the near term. The foreign funds (FIIs) too were seen cautious at current levels, with no buying support, even after a heavy selling mode in the last few weeks. Market has witnessed all-round selling in all sectors, while many midcap and small cap stocks have crashed in the last few weeks and are at yearly lows.

The Indian Rupee even after a continuous depreciation in the last few weeks, it is still firm weak at lowest levels. The recent measures by the Reserve Bank of India did not have any positive impact on the Rupee. Unless Rupee strengthened from current lows of 62, there may not be an immediate rally in the stock market.



The first quarter financial corporate results have almost come to an end, and it has not seen any encouraging trends, where many performances have been in line with the market expectations and few have been disappointing. The crucial economic indicator that was released recently is still high, which is

due to sharp rise in the food items and fuel prices, which is also a negative factor for the market. The recent IIP (Industrial Production) data is still at low levels indicating no recovery in the economy. Due to strong descending trend, in the equities, the precious metals have again come into the limelight.

Demand for gold is reported to be still high at 10 year high, and silver too has attracted global investment buying. Gold has appreciated from 25,000 levels, in the MCX commodity market to current 30,500 levels, while precious commodity silver has appreciated from 40,000 to nearly 51,000 in the last few days.

Similarly, crude oil is still firm at major highs of 6,600 levels, and has to decline from current levels, for the market to react positively.

The other leading base metals like the Copper, Nickel, Zinc, Lead, Aluminum, were all seen in a strong ascending trend, due to demand in the international markets.

Sensex, technically on the charts, it is now closer to the major medium-term support of 18,500 levels, where it has to definitely sustain for a short-term positive trend. But in-case of any break-down below this crucial support, then it indicates a further short-term weakness for the investors to be cautious. But market has to consolidate for a long period, for an uptrend, which may take time, with no immediate relief in sight. ♦

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

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Addicted to Alcohol or Drugs?

Test for self-assessment of Substance Use Disorder

- Do you ever feel bad or guilty about your drug/Alcohol use?
- Do you need to use drugs/Alcohol to relax or feel better?
- Do your friends or family members complain or worry about your drug/Alcohol use?
- Do you hide or lie about your drug/Alcohol use?
- Have you ever done anything illegal in order to obtain drugs/Alcohol?
- Do you spend money on drugs/Alcohol that you really can't afford?
- Do you ever use more than one recreational drug/Alcohol at a time?

If your answer is "yes" to one or more of the questions, you may have a drug problem

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