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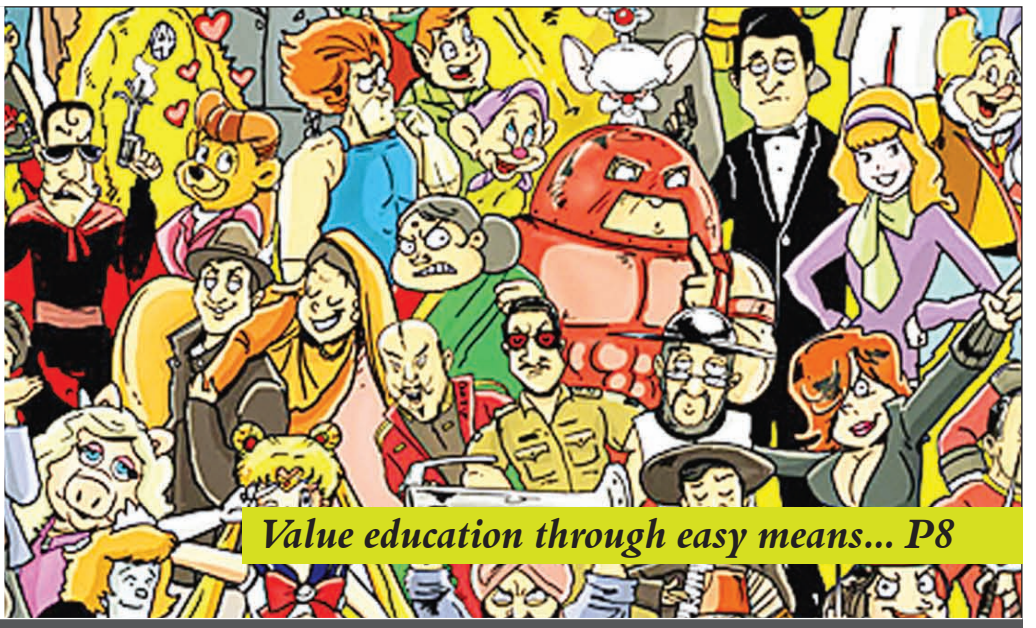

Value education through easy means... P8

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KCR all set for the hot seat?

By Our Political Correspondent

It now emerges from the trends that the April 30th polling in Telangana will in all likelihood catapult TRS chief Kalvakuntla Chandrasekhara Rao aka KCR to the chief minister's gaddi for the fledgling state. Indications are that the TRS will either get a simple majority or emerge as the single largest party in the 119-member Telangana assembly. The trends also point out to the fact that the Congress may have to settle for a stint in the opposition.

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KCR is reportedly slugging it out at his Gajwel farm house to finalize the contours of his cabinet and to draw up his team of ministers. Sources close to the TRS say that there could be a Deputy Chief Minister and some 20 ministers in Team KCR. Though the nitty-gritty of who gets what is still unclear, a fair idea of what the general composition of KCR's team would be is already available, much of it revealed in the form of announcements during the course of the campaign by none other than KCR himself.

There is also little doubt that KCR will occupy the hot seat once the results are out. He will go down as the first ever Chief Minister of the nascent Telangana state. Regardless of the final tally, KCR has already emerged as the hot favourite. However, it is the final result that will determine how far or how close KCR would be to the top position. By May 16th, things would become clearer and the contours of the next government will definitely emerge.

KCR and the TRS camp is in oozing confidence that they would have enough numbers to form a government on their own. They believe that they would not be needing the support of others, especially the Congress. He had already held two rounds of review meetings with his party senior leaders this weekend. They have analyzed the inputs coming from different parts of the state and feel that the TRS might get 55-70 MLAs and 8-10 MPs. In the event of the TRS bagging 70 MLAs, it would not need anyone's support. KCR would be forming the first ever government on his own. TRS sources say that the reports from the cadre are extremely encouraging. The party feels there is a strong wave in favour of the TRS across the Telangana region.

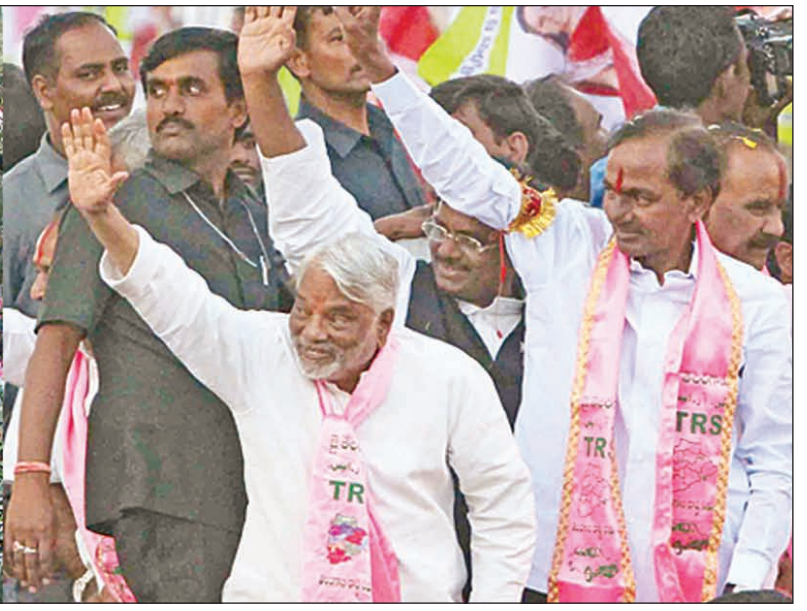
KCR is said to be happy with the performance put up by the party even in areas that have never been considered TRS citadels.KCR terms the four North Telangana districts – Nizamabad, Karimnagar, Warangal and Medak – as the "Tiger Districts". He feels he can sweep these districts if right candidates are chosen and right strategies are put in place. These are the districts that have formed the bulwark of the Telangana movement.

Ever since he formed TRS in April 2001, KCR mostly depended on these Tiger Districts to keep the Telangana momentum. Be it rallies or by-polls or protests, he drew his major strength from these districts. KCR has always admitted that the party was not as strong in the South Telangana region. Nalgonda, Mahabubnagar, Rangareddy, Hyderabad and Khammam districts are considered traditionally lukewarm to the TRS calls. But, this time around, TRS strongly feels that it has fared well in these districts too.

The confidential reports from South Telangana reveal that the TRS might win around 15 to 25 seats in there. The party hopes to do well in Nalgonda and Mahabubnagar. Even in Hyderabad city, where the Seemandhra migrants have a demographic edge over the Telanganites, the party is hoping to do handsomely. The TRS estimates that it would be bagging 40 - 45 seats in its borough of North Telangana and thus get the numbers required to form the government.

Massive polling, a boon for the TRS:

Nalgonda, where the TRS did not have much of a presence except a couple of seats, has recorded a staggering 81 per cent polling this time. KCR feels that this is an indicative of massive support for the TRS. If reports from the party sources at the grassroots are of any indication, TRS candidate from Bhongir LS constituency, Dr B Narsaiah, might post a comfortable victory over incumbent Komatireddy Rajagopal Reddy of the Congress.

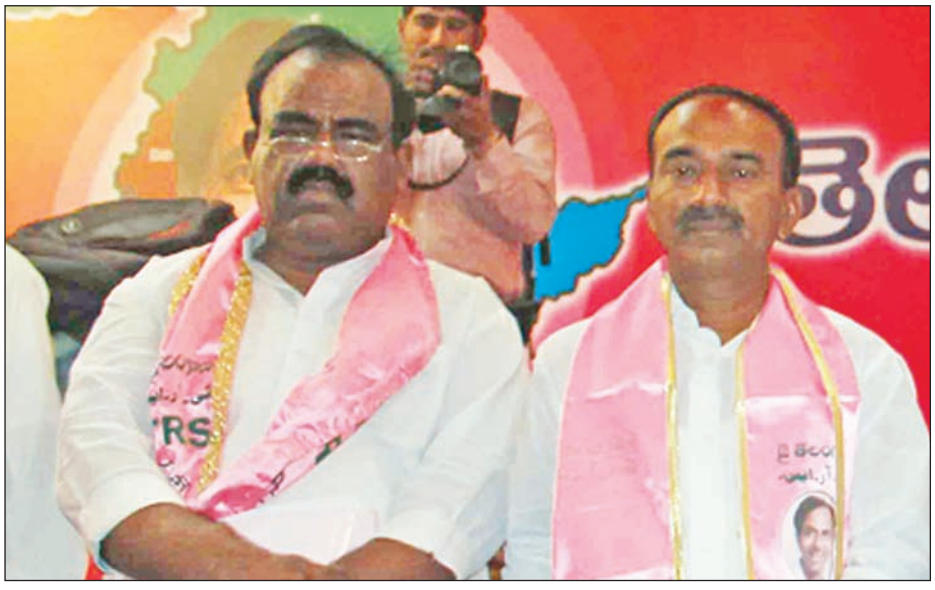


Similarly, KCR is sure of winning by a huge margin from both Gajwel Assembly seat and Medak Lok Sabha seat. Ditto with KCR's son KT Rama Rao, who is expected to emerge victorious from Sircilla Assembly seat. KCR's nephew and close confidant T Harish Rao too is likely to retain Siddipet Assembly seat by a huge margin. In fact, Harish is one of the few MLAs in the state, who has been consistently improving his victory margin every time he contests. However, reports suggest that KCR's daughter Kavitha could face a stiff challenge from BJP candidate Yendala Lakshminarayana in the fight for the Nizamabad Lok Sabha seat. Yendala, the underdog, had put up a spirited fight. Here, Congress sitting MP Madhu Yashki Goud may end up finishing either second or third. This could very well be a break from his winning streak. TRS leadership received reports that several of its candidates are likely to win from Nalgonda, Hyderabad, Mahabubnagar and Ranga Reddy districts. These are traditionally Congress strongholds where TRS has minimum presence.

TRS assessment is that it would win 10-12 MP seats in the Lok Sabha. It's list includes Adilabad - ST (Nagesh), Warangal – SC (Kadiam Srihari), Mahabubabad – ST (Sitaram Naik), Nagar Kurnool - SC (M Jagannath), Malkajgiri (Mynampalli Hanumanth Rao), Zaheerabad (BB Patil) and Chevella (K Visveshwar Reddy). Even in Chevella, a Sabitha stronghold might fall this time, the TRS feels. The TRS feels it has managed to stave of Sabitha Indrad Reddy's son P Karthik Reddy's challenge.

KCR sure to become CM:

Encouraged by his own surveys and the exit polls by non-partisan groups, KCR has already taken upon himself the task of forming the next government. He appears quite sure of becoming the CM.



TRS sources say there could be three possible scenarios.

First possibility is the TRS bagging simple majority by crossing half way mark of 60 assembly seats. If this happens, KCR doesn't need anyone's help to become the CM. There would be no opposition to him and the party would elect him even if he stays away from the legislative party meet. Thus he will be the undisputed leader of both the party and the state.

Another scenario is TRS emerging as the single largest party by getting 45 – 50 seats. In this case, KCR needs the help of Congress for a stable government. He cannot depend on smaller parties like the CPI or MIM, which might put forward unreasonable demands. KCR is afraid of CPI and will rather prefer Congress to any other party.

If that happens, KCR will promise Congress big-wigs that he would formally join the UPA and sit by their side in Parliament. In lieu of that, Congress would join KCR government in Telangana and hold some portfolios. This will be acceptable to Telangana Congress leaders too.

Third possibility is KCR getting seats on par with Congress, or even getting one or two seats less than the Congress. Even then, he will push for his claim to the CM post on the ground that there are no better candidates in the grand old party to take up that assignment. For this, he may even offer to merge his TRS party into the Congress.

Congress may agree to this. In fact, according to reliable information, KCR had secretly met Digvijay Singh a few days ago and discussed the possibility of two parties joining hands after the elections. Digvijay told KCR that their strategy of Congress and TRS contesting separately has worked well and spoiled the chances of TDP-BJP emerging stronger in Telangana. So, KCR will in all likelihood, be the ultimate beneficiary in Telangana.

editor.deccanpost@gmail.com

A Thank You
from the bottom of Our hearts!!

We take great pleasure in welcoming the passing of Andhra Pradesh State Reorganisation Bill - 2014 by our Parliament and completing the required constitutional process for formation of Telangana State.

It is a fateful moment for us in Telangana, and for the rest of our fellow brothers and sisters in India who have taken part in making our long cherished dream come true.

A new star has arisen, the star of self-respect in the Deccan. A new hope comes into being from on 2nd June, 2014.

Thank you Soniaji for honouring our decades long aspirations.

We wish you well

Telangana Constitutional Rights Protection Forum

1-2-606/80/107, 2nd Floor, LIC Colony, Opp. Indira Park, Hyderabad- 500080, Ph: 040 30424347

Contact: tcrpforum@gmail.com

Top Cops look the other way as biggies violate norms

By Shivkant Bichkunda

It appears the candidates in the recently-concluded elections have taken the proverb that everything is fair in war and love a wee bit seriously. The polling day on April 30th witnessed the sordid show of shameless money power and muscle power. The candidates, especially those belonging to the Congress and their kin have allegedly violated the norms of the Election Commission which are meant to ensure the smooth conduct of free and fair elections.

Even their family members have violated the norms at so many places. It was alleged that crores of rupees have changed hands for not fielding candidates in some constituencies and fielding weak candidates in a few more and in some cases, there was blatant collusion between the contenders. Few candidates have just contested to mar the chances of some other candidates.

Taking the election battle a wee bit seriously, senior Congress leader and staunch Gandhi family loyalist V Hanumanth Rao, who contested from Ambarpet Assembly constituency in Hyderabad, is known for his abrasive ways. This veteran leader is said have indulged in a physical attack on a worker of the rival political party and literally slapped in broad day light in the presence of general public. These graphic images were aired on television. Yet, neither is there an investigation, nor any action. It appears law did not apply to him. What more, Hanumanth Rao is obviously a 'senior' politician.

In LB Nagar Constituency, where the TDP's Chief Ministerial candidate and popular BC leader R Krishnaiah contested the elections against sitting congress MLA Devireddy Sudheer Reddy, the former had to face personal attacks. Sudheer Reddy, who is experienced in the youth wing politics of the Congress Party, was not ashamed to attack the personal aide of R Krishnaiah and manhandled him in full public view. Yet, the concerned police bosses turned deaf, dumb and blind and chose not to do anything as the matter is related to a mighty sitting legislator.

Former minister M Mukesh who has contested from Goshamahal Assembly constituency and allegedly distributed huge amounts to lure voters, has brazenly used wine shops, petrol pumps and even police officials to help him win the elections. That might be the reason that his son and TPCC Secretary Vikram Goud turned vengeful against the opponents and brutally beaten them with the help of the gunman. Those attacked included

Shekhar Yadav, Prashant, Ravi, RTC employee Ramu and Telugu Desam worker Durga Das, a diabetic and a patient suffering from hypertension. The attacks took place in Gowliguda. Durga Das voted for the BJP and asked his wife to vote for the BJP party. That was the reason enough to thrash him inhumanly. In the attack, the gunman who is allotted to the former minister was present with M Vikram Goud and he too used his gun's butt to attack Durga Das. In this attack, M Vikram Goud kicked on the chest of Durga Das's wife when she tried to save her husband from the evil. All this happened in the very presence of Veerababu, SI of Afzalgunj police station. Veerababu has blatantly supported the Congress party and its MLA candidate and his son too. Durga Das, who was admitted to the Osmania Hospital, was forcibly discharged in the midst of his treatment and had to approach a private hospital for the required treatment.

With a lot of criticism from all sections of the people, the Afzalgunj police officials have booked cases under bailable offences for namesake, but did not dare arrest the powerful politician's son for

long and when this DP correspondent contacted Hyderabad City Police Commissioner, Mr Anurag Sharma, and Addl. Commissioner of Police (Crimes) they merely said that the investigation was on and 'Law will take its own course'. The East Zone Deputy Commissioner of Police was too busy to attend the call of this correspondent. The competent Afzalgunj Circle Inspector of Police has also been contacted and he assured that proper action will be taken in this regard. After a lot of stiff opposition by the people, it is being alleged that Vikram Goud was dramatically called by the police authorities somewhere near Osmania General Hospital, took an MLC from the doctors and was presented before the court where his lawyers were ready with the bail application. He obtained bail easily as if everything was planned fool proof.

In an another incident it is being alleged that Mr Mukesh Goud has used police officials to beat the people in some areas like Jinsi Chowrahi, Mangalhat etc where the voters have voted for rival party candidate. Later the Victim was shifted to the hospital by the local corporator, BJP leaders and others.

It is pertinent to mention here that M Vikram Goud is facing serious allegations of Kidnaps, Settlements, brutal thrashing of gullible and innocent people for materialistic gains and also alleged of taking money for getting the postings and transfers of many government officials including police officials. And in return, the police officials are illegally favouring him by ignoring these acts; that's what might be the reason

that a nephew of a history sheeter (who is claimed to be close to the former minister Mukesh Goud) is calling the shots in the Goshamahal Police division. This Home Guard accused of posing like official of Commissioner's Task Force and of threatening gullible youth and extorting huge sums from them. It is being talked that how a home guard can be posted in his native police station limits where he can misuse and abuse the police uniform and cause irreparable harm to the people in general.

All these incidents show that law will not take its course if the accused are high, wealthy, powerful and mighty. The authorities are reluctant to touch the mighty and powerful politicians and their kin. The people of Goshamahal ask why is the law enforcing agencies failing in discharging their duties responsibly and faithfully and why are they favouring the VIPs. The people are hoping that the law enforcing agencies will get their act together and shrug off the casual approach to solve the people's problems sincerely.

shivkantb9@gmail.com

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Assertive voter arrives....

The massive round of applause that UK based NRI techie Raju Karthik, who stopped Union Minister Chiranjeevi from jumping the queue at the Jubilee Hills Polling Station on April 30th, is indicative of the assertiveness of the common man. Raju Karthik has forced Chiranjeevi to stand in the queue and wait for his turn to cast his vote. Overnight, this faceless commmoner has become an icon of sorts and attained star status for fearlessly taking on a political biggie.

Chiranjeevi and his family members, including his actor-son Ramcharan Teja, tried to give a go by to the queue and go over to the polling officer to cast his vote. This is want of the VIPs in this country. Most senior leaders, ministers, MPs and MLAs and even former MPs and former MLAs too flaunt their VIP status at the drop of the hat.

For instance, former Union Minister Bandaru Dattatreya did the same at polling station No 185 at Ramnagar in Musheerabad Assembly constituency at 10 AM. Bandaru and his family members straightaway went up to the polling staff and cast their votes even as voters standing in a serpentine queue watched on helplessly.

But, Chiranjeevi was prevented from doing so mainly because of two reasons – first the youth who questioned him is from the UK where all are equal. Two, he hails from Jubilee Hills, the swank upmarket swathe of land that is

home to the richie rich and the VIPs. When Karthik objected to Chiranjeevi's barge-in, everyone else in the queue - most of them from the upper economic strate - supported him by clapping vigorously.

It is the clapping that embarrassed Chiranjeevi most. The Mega Star tried to explain later that he just wanted to go inside the polling station and find out whether his name was in the list. But, there were no takers for his explanation as all such a resourceful person as Chiranjeevi should have done is to send a SMS to the election commission and get the details. Of course, countless denizens had easily located their polling booths using this spectacularly simple and stunningly effective method.

Incidents like these have set these elections apart from the previous elections. The overall polling percentage in Telangana too went from a lowly 61 per cent in 2009 to 78 per cent. This is because of a sustained campaign launched by the pro-active Election Commission (EC) over the last few months.

Medak district collector Smitha Sabharwal had even announced incentives for the villages that ensured 100 per cent polling this time. Gone are the days when the poll authorities were mere neutral empires overseeing the poll process! Now they are very active in improving the voters' participation. So is the case with seizure of over Rs 150 crore in cash and five lakh liters of liquor meant to buy gullible voters. This for sure had a salutary effect on the parties and the candidates.

Youth have turned up in large numbers to vote. This again is a welcome development. Indeed, it augurs well for the new-born state of Telangana. Many first time voters have taken pains to cast their vote and proudly posted their 'selfies', flaunting inked fingers on the social media.

There are some gray areas too. A case in point is the Bhojya Naik Tanda in Basheerabad Mandal of Rang Reddy District, where the voters have refused to vote as no party paid them Rs 5 lakh that they demanded. Similarly, there are other areas where the voters had demanded and got money.

The EC also failed to sufficiently educate voters on the use of EVMs for Lok Sabha and Assembly polls. Voters couldn't differentiate between the EVMs of two elections. So is the case with a large number of missing names from voters' lists. Also, there was this needless controversy over Chandrababu Naidu telling the voters that he had voted for the BJP. Chief Electoral Officer Bhanwarlal landed himself in soup when he said that Chandrababu's vote would be deemed invalid. However, the Central Election Commission has clarified that there was nothing wrong in announcing whom one had voted after he leaves the polling booth. This unsavory episode was wholly avoidable.

editor.deccanpost@gmail.com

letters TO THE EDITOR

Is Congress committing Hara-kiri in Telangana?

I totally agree with your last week's cover story and especially its headline. Everybody were feeling that after granting statehood to Telangana, Congress party will sweep both the assembly and parliament elections and form its first ever government in the 29th state of India which will come into being from 2nd June, 2014. But due to the over confidence and lack of coordination between the senior congress leaders and over ambitions of few congress party leaders the congress is battling against TRS as well as TDP & BJP alliance. There are so many aspirants for CM's post like Jana Reddy, Damodar Rajanarasimha, D Srinivas, J Geetha Reddy, Uttam Kumar Reddy, DK Aruna, D Sridhar Babu, V Hanumanth Rao and their aspirations seems to be the cause of the failure of the congress party in these elections. On the other side, few senior congress leaders and the TRS capitalized on this weakness and fielded strong candidates against most of the above aspirants to see that they are cut to sizes in their own home turf. I believe that congress has been miserably failed in claiming the credit for giving Telangana and will performed poor in the elections. Lets wait for the results.

Narasimha Reddy, *Chanda Nagar*

Stop tinkering with the spirit of Constitution

I am a regular reader of Deccan Post and I like its editorial which is rich of analyses and research. With reference to your last week's editorial I can surely say that no politician in the state of this constitutional problem of Presidential Rule in AP and could suggest a suitable and viable solution. I am amazed that many so called social organization files PILs for alleged obscenity in movies and other pity issues

could not realize that imposition of President's Rule is for a fixed term and need approval of both the houses of Parliament without which it can not be continued or extended. Where our constitutional experts are? Why these experts are shying away from bringing the matter to the Apex Court? One must understand the gravity of the problem and question the people who are ruling this vast nation. Our being mute spectators will indirectly encourage the crooked politicians to tinker with the constitution and lead to irregularities, violation of constitution and abuse of power. Its high time we must awake and fight against the wrongs.

Dr Surabhi Sharma, *E-mail*

Stave off sweltering, Searing heat wave

After a very long time I got to read a very useful and information article on the centre pages of Deccan Post. I was missing the quality stuff on these pages for which the Deccan Post is known. As we all know how hot the days are of this summer and how people are suffering due to unbearable heat and heat wave. I am glad that a very useful and educating article has educated me a lot about heat, heat wave and hot to stave off it. Thank you Deccan Post.

Rajni Dayakar, *Dilsukhnagar*

Readers are requested to send in their feedback to
editor.deccanpost@gmail.com

Will Modi help T-BJP win in Telangana?

By Shivkant Bichkunda

For the past several months, we have been watching a resurgent BJP growing from strength to strength. Ever since the anointment of Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi as the party's Prime Ministerial candidate, the party has shown remarkable rise in its popularity. The party has expanded to all parts of the country.

In the case of Telangana, there is palpable Narendra Modi effort in the urban areas. Even otherwise, the BJP was expected to do better in Telangana as it had played a key role in realization of the dream of the Telangana state.

However, the BJP appeared to have lost the heart to plod on and decided to latch on to the sinking fortunes of the Telugu Desham Party. However, the electioneering in the recently concluded general elections both to the Telangana state Legislature as well as the Lok Sabha indicates that some sections of the electorate had indeed solidly backed the BJP-TDP alliance. Survey by the Deccan Post shows, that the BJP is heading for a victory in at least 10 Assembly segments and 2-4 Lok Sabha constituencies. Trends indicate that the BJP is poised to win the Mahaboob Nagar and the Secunderabad Lok Sabha seats with a margin of over 40,000+ votes.

Nagam grows from strength to strength

Veteran Telangana strongman Dr Nagam Janardhan Reddy, who represented the Nagar Kurnool Assembly seat till now, chose to contest from Mahabubnagar Lok Sabha seat for the first time taking on veteran Congressman and Union Minister S Jaipla Reddy and former MP AP Jitender Reddy of the TRS. Initially, it appeared as if Nagam was in the race almost as an independent candidate but gradually he picked up momentum and successfully projected himself as the NDA candidate. The elections in Mahabubnagar parliamentary constituency that comprises of 7 Assembly segments, witnessed a huge turnout and also alot of cross voting. Despite the TRS doing better than expectations in the Assembly segments, Nagam proved that he is both a mass leader and a crowd puller. Though there is a possibility of the TRS winning 3-4 Assembly segments in Mahabubnagar, it is clear that Nagam has managed to pip past the two rivals. Moreover, Nagam is quite popular and a lot of voters acknowledge the role of Nagam in the tussle. He also has significant support base among the youth. The youth are also swayed by Modi's mass appeal.

The popularity of Sushma Swaraj (Chinnamma of Telangana) was also well exploited by Nagam, particularly among the women voters of Mahabubnagar. The absence of Sonia Gandhi's campaign in Mahabubnagar was also a crucial factor that helped Nagam to race ahead of his rivals. It is to be seen if Nagam, who is poised to win the elections with a handsome majority, finds a berth in the Union Cabinet.

Bandaru likely to come back

The BJP candidate and former Union Minister Bandaru Dattatreya, who contested from the Secunderabad Lok Sabha seat, also seen to be heading for a comfortable victory. After his loss in 2004 to sitting MP Anjan Kumar Yadav of Congress party, it was believed that Bandaru had become politically weak and may never again win from Secunderabad.

This time also there was confusion about Kishan Reddy planning to contest from Secunderabad. But it appears Narendra Modi chose experienced Dattatreya over Kishan Reddy. Many factors favoured Dattatreya this time. First, there has been a huge anti-incumbency against sitting MP Anjan Kumar Yadav especially amongst the traditional minority voters.

Secondly, Bandaru has managed to win over Seemandhra migrants in Secunderabad. Thirdly, the youth were opposed to the Congress and fourthly, the TRS has not been able to build a sizable vote bank in this particular constituency.

Although, Ch Vidyasagar Rao the former Union Minister and veteran BJP leader from Karimnagar and Yendam Laxminarayana of Nizamabad too have managed to attract young voters and women voters. However, it is too premature to evaluate their chances of victory. On the whole, these BJP MP candidates appear to be smug and satisfied. Their chances of winning have definitely improved.

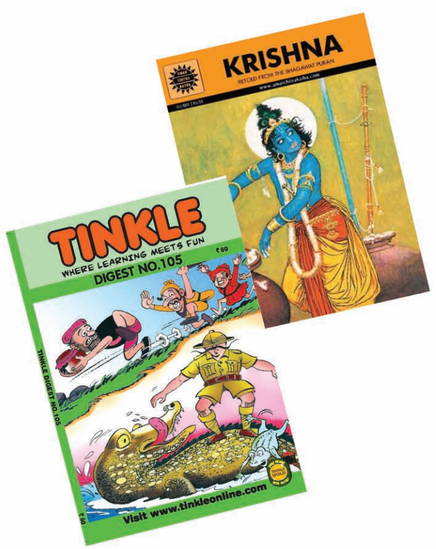
shivkantb9@gmail.com

Value Education Through Easy Means

By Jaywant Naidu

Indian comic books are entwined with the culture of India and published in English and a number of Indian languages. India has a long tradition of comic readership and themes associated with extensive religious myths and folk-tales have appeared as children's comic books for decades. Indian comics often have large publication. In the late 1980s and early 1990s popular comics easily sold more than 5,00,000 copies over the course of its shelf life of several weeks. It's now come down to around 50,000 copies over a similar period. India's once-flourishing comic industry is in sharp decline because of increasing competition from satellite television (children's television channels) and the gaming industry. Over the last three decades, Diamond Comics, Raj Comics, Tinkle and Amar Chitra Katha have established vast distribution networks countrywide and are read by hundreds of thousands of children in a wide range of languages.

Famous comic creators from India include Aabid Surti, Uncle Pai and cartoonist Pran Kumar Sharma and famous characters are Chacha Chaudhary, Bahadur, Detective Moochwala, Nagraj, Super Commando Dhruva, Doga, Suppandi and Shikari Shambhu. Anant Pai, affectionately known as 'Uncle Pai' is credited with helping to launch India's comic book industry in the 1960s with his 'Amar Chitra Katha' series chronicling the ancient Hindu mythologies. India's comic industry began in the mid-1960s when the leading newspaper The Times of India launched Indrajal Comics. Up until the late 1960s, the comics were only enjoyed by the children of wealthy parents. But from that time until the early 1990s they established themselves in the market.



The evolution of Indian comics can be broadly divided into four phases. Around 1950s saw syndicated strips like The Phantom, Mandrake, Flash Gordon, Rip Kirby being translated into Indian languages. The second phase in the late 1960s came in the form of Amar Chitra Katha comics with hundred percentage Indian content. In the 1970s several indigenous comics were launched to rival the Western superhero comics. The superhero comics in the early '80s marked the third wave, with creators and publishers hoping to benefit from the success of the superhero genre in the West.

However, one of India's earliest superheroes was 'Batul the Great', and created during the 1960s. In the 1980s, at least 5.5 million copies of comics such as 'Heroes of Faith' series were sold in India. This changed in the late '90s with the arrival of cable television, Internet and other modes of entertainment in India. However, publishers like Raj Comics and Diamond Comics along with comics like Amar Chitra Katha have been able to sustain their readership. After a lull, new publishing companies such as the Virgin Comics has appeared on the market in the last few years.

FREE COMIC BOOK WEEKEND (FCBW):

A two-day Free Comic Book Weekend (FCBW), where enthusiasts can download a host of comic books from the internet has been organized by digital content provider 'readwhere.com' in association with 'Comic Con India', an Indian comic convention, to promote Indian comics. Publishers participating in this edition of the FCBW are Amar Chitra Katha (ACK), Campfire Graphic Novels, Pop Culture Publishing, Vimanika Comics, Diamond Comics, Chariot Comics, Orange Radius and Astute Media Vision. Some of the popular titles that can be downloaded for free are Draupadi: The Fire-Born Princess (Campfire Graphic Novels), Satya Police (Pop Culture Publishing), Tinkle (ACK) and Godslayer (Chariot Comics).This weekend has focus on reaching out to consumers who use tablets and mobiles for reading. Nearly 15,000 comic book enthusiasts reach out over a weekend.

COMICS CONVENTION:

India hosted its first ever comics convention 'Comic Con India' in February 2011. The first ever convention was hosted by Twenty Onwards Media at Dilli Haat, New Delhi, India. The 'Comic Con' lasted for 2 days, and included several workshops, interactive sessions, interviews and speeches by various comic book artists and writers. Around 15,000 people attended. A few animation and multi-media productions had set up their stalls as well, and also conducted seminars about animation design and future of animation industry in India.

The convention was inaugurated by Chairman of National Book Trust, Dr Bipin Chandra. On the last day of the event, Uncle Pai, a renowned educationalist and creator of Indian comics, in particular the Amar Chitra Katha and Tinkle was presented a Lifetime Achievement Award by Cartoonist Pran, who is one of the most successful Indian cartoonists, best known as the creator of Chacha Chaudhary. 'Comic Con India' is dedicated to expanding India's popular culture by creating high profile events that cater to fans of not only comics, but also gaming, movies, television, merchandise, toys, and food.

'Comic Con India' is dedicated to creating unique events and giving fans, exhibitors and partners a platform to celebrate their undying love and passion for comics. According to estimates, the Indian comic publishing industry is worth over 100 million dollars. Some of the leading publishing houses and comic characters have been Amar Chitra Katha by India Book House, Arkin Comics, Batul The Great by Narayan Debnath, Billoo, Bombaby the Screen Goddess published by Slave Labour Graphics, Chacha Chaudhary by Pran, published by Diamond Comics, Chitra Bharti Kathamala by S Chand, Corridor by Sarnath Banerjee, Detective Moochwala created by Ajit Ninan, Gardhab Das created by Neelabh and Jayanto, Handa Bhonda, Indrajal Comics by The Times of India, Krishna by India Book House, Lotpot by Mayapuri Group, Madhu Muskan by Mayapuri Group, Mahabharata by India Book House, Nonte Phonte, Ramayana by India Book House, Spider-Man: India published by Gotham Entertainment Group, The book of Pi by Electron Studio, Tinkle by India Book House, Vimanarama by Vertigo Raj Comics, Bankelal, Bheriya, Bhokal, Doga, Gamraj, Nagraj, Parmanu, Shakti, Super Commando Dhruva created by Anupam Sinha and Tiranga.

A FEW SHORTCOMINGS:

1. Most of the comics are based on mythology and the superhuman nature of the central character.

2. Very few deal with social issues of corruption, child labour, feminism, terrorism or Indian heritage.

3. The content needs to be more matured and revolve around the current happenings in India.

4. Less of superhero concept works in the present younger generation in India. For example, the 'Nagraj (Snake King)', by Raj Comics which is a terror-weapon-turned-crime-fighter whose main power is hosting mystical snakes that can attack his opponents on command; his bite is filled with deadly venom cannot have a large following among the present younger generation in India. The youth can no longer believe in it and need contemporary stuff.

editor.deccanpost@gmail.com

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Maiden Annual Brahmotsavams of Chandramouliswara

The five-day annual Brahmotsavams of Chandramuliswara Swamy commenced with religious pomp and gaiety here on last Wednesday. The maiden brahmotsavams commenced on a religious note with Dhwajaroahna Mahotsavams which took place between 8am to 11 AM followed by Kalpavrisksha Vahanam at 11.30 AM.

The processional deities of Lord Chandramouliswara Swamy accompanied by His two consorts Goddess Ganga and Goddess Parvathi took celestial ride on the divine tree vehicles in the streets of temple premises amidst the chanting of "Hara Hara Maha Deva" by multitude of devotees who converged to witness the grandeur of Lord on the grand vehicle.

Meanwhile the Lord will grace the devotees on Hamsa Vahanam in the evening. This is for the first time the temple administration of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams have been performing annual Brahmtosavams in this famous temple of Lord Shiva in Rishikesh.

LAUGH OUT LOUD

Santa : People consider me as a "GOD".
Banta : How do you know??
Santa : When I went to the Park today, everybody said,"Oh GOD ! U have came again".

****

Master to servant: "What will you do with a 100 Rs. lying on the floor? Will you keep it?"
Servant: "No , Of course not."
Master: Then what will you do with it?
Servant: "I will spend it."

****

TEACHER : PAPPU, how do you spell "crocodile"?
PAPPU : "K-R-O-K-O-D-A-I-L"
TEACHER : No, that's wrong
PAPPU : Maybe it's wrong, but you asked me how "I" spell it!

****

On a romantic date santa's girl friend asks him: "Darling ! On our engagement will you give me a ring?"
He said: "Sure ! What's your phone number?"

****

A man went to sell his dog. A buyer asked him, "Is this dog faithful?"
The man replied, "Yes,I have sold him 3 times but he returns to me."

HEALTH TIPS

Health Benefits of Cane Juice

Cane juice contains no simple sugars; hence, it can be enjoyed by diabetics without any compromise with the health. Regular consumption of cane juice not only results in stable glucose levels but also helps in losing weight.

Cane juice contains sugar in raw form which is good for health. It contains essential nutrients and minerals, unlike the refined sugar which is devoid of any nutrients and minerals, and can cause health problems in sugar-sensitive people. Contrarily, cane juice is free from such problems.

Cane juice helps in the treatment of jaundice, a condition characterized by the yellow pigmentation of the skin and membranes caused due to elevated levels of billirubin in the body fluids and poor liver function. Consuming one glass sugarcane juice mixed with lime provides relief in jaundice and helps in speed recovery.

Cane juice, diluted with lime juice and coconut water, greatly helps in burning sensation or dysuria, associated with urinary tract infections, sexually transmitted diseases, kidney stones and prostatitis. Cane juice may be effective in treating scanty urination by promoting clear urine flow and proper kidney function.

Regular consumption of cane juice can replace proteins lost during certain febrile disorders, such as fever. It is extremely beneficial during micturation due to high acidity, genorrhoea, enlarged prostate, cyctitis and nepthritis. To extract the best benefits of cane juice, dilute it with lime juice, ginger juice and coconut water.

SUDOKU 320

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

How to play : Fill in the grid so that every horizontal row, every vertical column and every 3x 3 box contains the digits 1 to 9, without repeating the numbers in the same row, column or box. You cant change the digits already given in the grid. Every puzzle has one solution.

ANSWERS Sudoku-319

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

Answer 319: S Nagraj, OU Campus

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

ASTRO FOCUS

ARIES: Students might fell the burden of studies very difficult to handle but do not panics just try to manage your time and you will reduce half of your burden with this method. You are very sensitive, it seems good to an extent but after that it just shows that you are so weak and gives a chance to others to overpower you. You should try control your emotions and try to see things more practically.

TAURUS: This week will make you feel special and lucky that you have love in your life. You will find someone who will make your life good and will make you forget all your tensions. Feel the love in the air and enjoy this movement. Spend some time with your family and make them feel good too. Your work is also important so do not neglect it.

GEMINI: You are very good at handling situations, this week utilize this quality of yours. As it will be very beneficial for you in handling your clients and will make your dealings successful. You will give your life another chance and will make yourself fit in the situations that are troubling you days.

CANCER: This week will make you sparkle in your professional field and will give you a good chance to make your identity in a big crowd. You may feel a bit ashamed to take the advice from a younger person but it is nothing to feel ashamed of it as everybody have their own experiences in their life time, these are not dependent on age.

LEO: This week take extra care of your company, with whom you are spending your precious time as some person might want to spoil you. Your company is the mirror of your personality so be aware of such people and stay away neither it will spoil your image. Your business might face some ups and downs in first phase of this week but by the end it will get back to its original position but that does not mean that you should not do any efforts to take it back to good position.

VIRGO: You should understand what you want in life and should use your full energy to get that. This week is very good for doing constructive work as your stars are very shiny and will show you the right way. You are a good speaker by which you will be able to assist people well and will gain attention which is good for your career. You enjoy the company of your loved one and always want them to be with you only.

LIBRA: You might meet some old friend who has always played a very important part in your life. It might not be a good time in your work but you will soon get a lot of appreciation at work. Just keep on doing your work with honesty and success will be with you soon. You should see properly before signing any paper, as it might create a problem for you in your coming future.

SCORPIO: Try to avoid borrowing money this week if you still have to take it then take it from some reliable source. Take care of all the documents properly and avoid any kind of ignorance as it might create a big problem for you in your future. Always remember that you should help others in your limits only going out of it will ultimately get you in trouble.

SAGITTARIUS: This week will wet you with the showers of happiness and life. You will enjoy every movement of it. Your problems which were troubling you for a long time will be solved this week by you that too very easily. Your love partner will bring you some big surprise which will make your life a beautiful place. You will be very happy with your family as they will be there for your support in solving all your problems.

CAPRICORN: You might expect something from your family which they might not be able to fulfill. Do not get upset about it they are also humans and it is not possible for everyone to do everything just understand it and stay calm with them. You should try not to take too much stress on yourself as it is not good for your health.

AQUARIUS: You will have a good business opportunity this week but for that you will have to work hard and make some good efforts to utilize that. Your love partner will demand some quality time from you which you should manage to give to him or her as it will make your bonding strong. You will plan some family trip which will make you feel good and free from your tensions.

PISCES: Your life partner might argue with you related to your future. Do not get irritated or argue just listen to him or her as it is very true that you need not to worry about your future needs now. Your business will give some tensions which you need to handle with care so that they can be solved easily.

Brotherhood and unity through Music

Ustad Nazeer Ahmed Khan Warsi and Ustad Naseer Ahmed Khan Warsi, popularly known as 'Warsi Brothers' performed at VIRASAT 2014 organized by SPIC MACAY and English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU). They spoke to Deccan Post.

Can you tell about your lineage?

We are the grandsons of Padmashri Aziz Ahmed Khan Warsi from Hyderabad. We are the sons of Late Ustad Zaheer Ahmed Khan Warsi who was the great grandson of Allame-e-Mousiqui Mohd Siddiq Khan Saheb, the nephew and descendent of the Taan Ras Khan Saheb (a royal classical musician of the Mughal court. Later on, Mohd Siddiq Khan Saheb became royal court musician of Mir Mehboob Ali Khan III, the then ruler of Hyderabad Deccan. Hazrath Qutub Baksh,Ustad Shabbu Khan Saheb, Ustad Nisar Ahmed Khan, Nazir Ahmed Khan, Baba Naseer Ahmed Khan, Ustad Zaheer Ahmed Khan have all been a part of our family tree.

What about your 'Gharana'?

We belong to the 'Qawwal Bachchon Ka Gharana'. This Gharana came from the disciples of the holy shrine of Hazrath Nizamuddin Aulia and Hazrath Ameer Khusro. Qawwali was brought into its form by Hazrath Moinuddin Chisti Ajmeri.

What is the aim of your music?

The goal of all 'Sufiana Kalam' is one and the same; Brotherhood and Unity. "Khuda Se Kaho Ya Ram Se, Pukaro Useh Chahe Jis Naam Se"; "Raaste Aalag, Par Thikana Ek" (Routes may be different, but goal is the same). It's a path of becoming one with the Almighty.

Is there any ritual very important in your life?

Every year, we make it to the annual festival at the 'Dargah Ajmer Sharif' and offer our Qawwali. Even if any big program comes our way on those dates, we leave it and make it a point to give our 'Haazari'.

Which are the major festivals in which you have performed?

We have performed in many prestigious festivals such as the Baba Jassa Singh Sharad Utsav, Jashn-e-Khusro Festival, Dargah Nizamuddin Aulia, Traditions of Sufism organized by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Vasantha Habba Festival and Kabir Khusro festival. We have toured and performed all over the world and have been awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi award in the year 2010.

What are the traditional songs in your repertoire?

We sing the 'Parampara Sufi Kalams' of many Sufi poets like Hazrath Amir Khusro, Kabir, Meerabai, Bedum Shah Warsi (of Devasharif near Lucknow), Hazrath Waris Ali Shah, Baba Fareed, Baba Bulleh Shah and many more. Many great 'Sufi Shayar' hail from this very city of Hyderabad. Hazrath Shah Khamosh was a very renowned Saint from Hyderabad and even today we pay our respects at his Dargah near Ek Minar Masjid in Nampally. Ulvi Shah and Tameel Sittari were also from Hyderabad and we respectfully sing their creations. Qawwali has a very long history in the city of Hyderabad. There is a need to commemorate and remember these great Saints by organizing festivals in their name.

What is the future of your music?

As far as upholding the purity of tradition is concerned, it's not an easy task in this commercial world. There are many threats to the sublime 'Sufiana Kalam' in the form of gimmicks and remix to satisfy a mass audience. Today, Qawwali is also losing out on language. The original Urdu, Sanskrit, Persian and Awadhi words are fast being replaced by popular day to day Urdu language words. But, we have learnt the discipline of not diluting our tradition from our grandfather. In fact, most of our 'Taalim' has been received via the time that we spent with our grandfather. This includes music and also the way of life.

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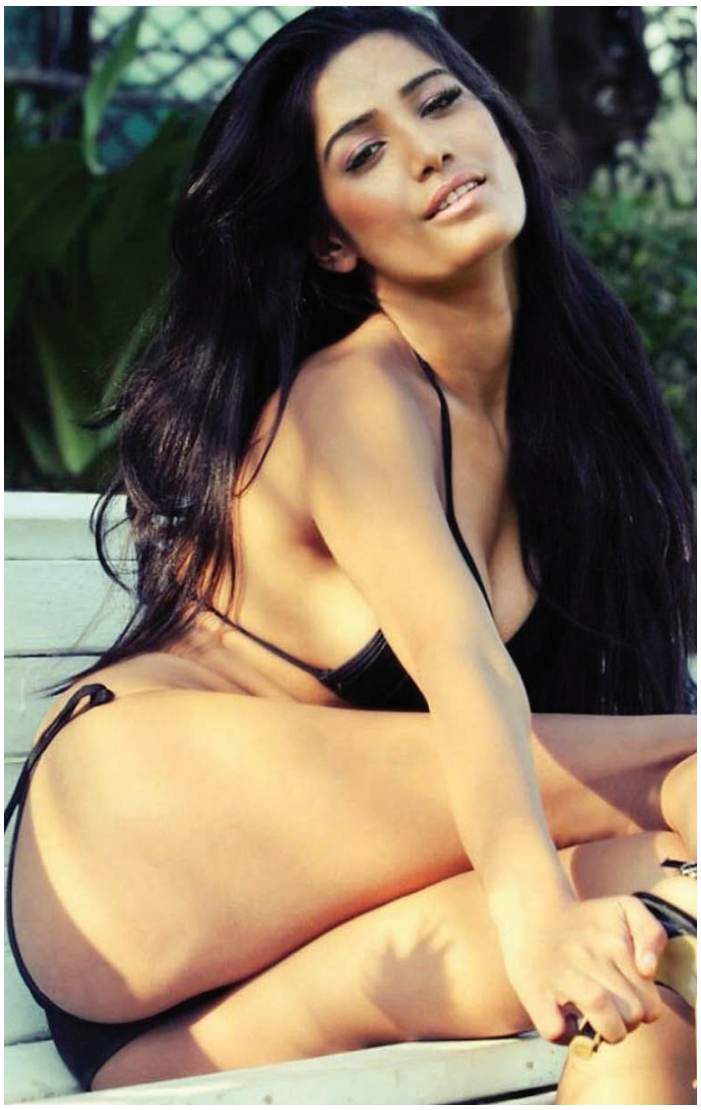
Poonam's indecent behaviour



Controversy queen-Bollywood bombshell Poonam Pandey, who has been missing from the limelight for a while, is at it again. Last Friday night (May 2, 2014), she was arrested

hot & SPICE

from Mira road in Mumbai. She was reportedly held for allegedly behaving indecently in public. The actress was later released after a warning from the local cops. Buzz is that Poonam could be in inebriated condition. More details of the incident are yet to come. Poonam Pandey's last film 'Nasha' bombed at Box Office without setting cash registers ringing.

Poonam is known for stripping and posting her sleazy pics on Twitter and constantly tries her best to hit headlines. One wonder whether is this any such attempt from Poonam to gain publicity as Sunny Leone replaced her in recent times.

Kriti is out of Bunny's movie?

Common tendency in Tollywood is to produce lots of rumours about a yet to start film's star-cast. Sometimes producers and director take these rumours seriously and cast the same person being rumoured. Same thing is expected to happen with stylish star Allu Arjun's flick.

Riding high with the success of 'Race Gurram', Bunny is busy spending time with his cute kid before he takes up his next project. An elated Bunny is seen voting the other day, and seems like he is gearing up for shoot of his next with Trivikram very soon. Confirmed news is that Samantha is the lead girl in this flick, while rumour has it that Mahesh Babu's 1-Nenokkadine girl Kriti Sanon is playing another fiddle. But she is really not there in the movie. Kriti Sanon clarified officially that she is approached by many Telugu producers but not anyone seeking her to shake legs with Bunny in the upcoming flick of Trivikram. Promoting her first Hindi flick 'Heropanti' to the maximum, Kriti also struck off the rumours about joining in 'Housefull 3'. Other than Heropanti, there seems no other movie for our hot lady. Especially she is not part of Bunny's action-comedy.

-DP Desk

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FM flays Swiss stand on tax evaders

By Mahesh Malekar

In a strongly worded reply to his Swiss counterpart, Finance Minister P Chidambaram accused Switzerland of protecting tax evaders whose names appeared in the HSBC Bank list.

"Refusal to provide assistance in cases where evidence has been collected by the Indian tax authorities, for the reason that the names of the persons concerned existed in the HSBC bank data, amounts to Switzerland providing protection to taxpayers found to have evaded Indian taxes, and seriously undermines India's efforts in tackling offshore tax evasion and stashing of unaccounted income abroad," he said in a recent letter to Swiss Finance Minister Eveline Widmer Schlumpf.

Reiterating India's position that the data was legally obtained from France under Indo-French tax treaty, Chidambaram said India's views were shared by other members of the global forum and unless the issue was addressed India would continue to take position at the global forum that the legal and regulatory framework for an effective exchange of information was not in place in Switzerland.

A disgruntled employee of HSBC Geneva has stolen the data from the bank branch. The French government got hold of the data and shared it with India through the legal channel.

The finance minister said that the interpretation made by Switzerland that it could not share the stolen information as per India's request was not in accordance with international standards.

Chidambaram warned that an effective exchange of tax-related information was extremely important for economic co-operation between the two countries and Switzerland must honour its rights and duties agreed to in their bilateral Direct Tax Avoidance Convention (DTAC).

In a meeting with Swiss delegation in February, India had demonstrated that in many of the cases mentioned in the HSBC list tax authorities had gathered incriminating evidence of tax evasion through their own investigation and actions. Thus India wanted Swiss authorities to consider its request for information independently of the stolen data.

"However, the Swiss delegation insisted on a pre-condition that India needs to demonstrate that the investigation carried out in these cases was initiated independently of the HSBC data and was based on information already available with the India authorities prior to receiving the HSBC data from France. These are unusual preconditions and are intended to refuse assistance," Chidambaram said.

In its last letter to India, Switzerland informed that its Parliament approved amendment to a law that seeks to make exceptions to the requirement of prior notification of account holder and assured that the legislation would come into effect from July. The finance minister expressed satisfaction over this.

mail@deccanpost.net

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

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