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Is Congress ahead of TRS?



By Our Political Correspondent

Seat-Sharing or no seat-sharing with the Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS), the Congress - the grand old party - is going to have an upper hand in Telangana. Though they dithered for a long time to go to the polls sans TRS support, the Congress leaders are slowly veering round to the reality of going it alone. A final decision on this would be taken only next week.

According to an opinion poll conducted recently by an agency of national repute, the Congress is poised to win a handsome 9 out of 17 Lok Sabha seats in Telangana. The TRS is expected to win 4 MPs, BJP 2 and TDP and MIM 1 each. This clearly shows that Congress is the first preference of the people of Telangana when it comes to the question of Lok Sabha.

In the Assembly polls too, the Congress appears to be a clear winner. The congress party is likely to bag 45 out of 119 Assembly seats in the region. The TRS, which is eyeing more than 70 MLAs on its own, may have to be content with just around 40 seats, the survey predicted. The BJP-TDP alliance, most likely to be firmed up next week, may secure 20 seats. The rest will go to others like the MIM and the CPI.

Expectedly, Congress is not in fine shape in Seemandhra. The survey projected a different scenario in the coastal and Rayalaseema districts. It says that of the 25 MPs in Seemandhra, the YSR Congress will win a handsome 17, followed by TDP (4), BJP (1) and the Congress (3 seats).

Similarly, in the Assembly elections too, of the 175 MLAs in residuary state of Andhra Pradesh, YSR Congress party appears to be having a clear edge. YSR Congress is expected to bag 119 MLAs, followed by TDP with 42 MLAs and Congress with 9 MLAs. The result of the remaining seats is too close to call. The situation in Seemandhra is still in a fluid and changes are not ruled out at this stage.



Telangana in Congress kitty

It is clear that the Congress is going to form the next government in Telangana with the help of its allies - the CPI and the MIM. By March 31st, the Ugadi Day, the Congress will finalize the seat-sharing with the CPI. Congress High Command has directed the Telangana PCC president Ponnala Lakshmaiah to go ahead and clinch a deal with the CPI.

The Congress's strategy with MIM is going to be different. The MIM never likes to enter into an open alliance with any party. However, it has always enjoyed a behind-the-screen deal with Congress all these years. The MIM wants the Congress to field candidates against it and thus split the anti-MIM votes. This time too, the situation would not be different.

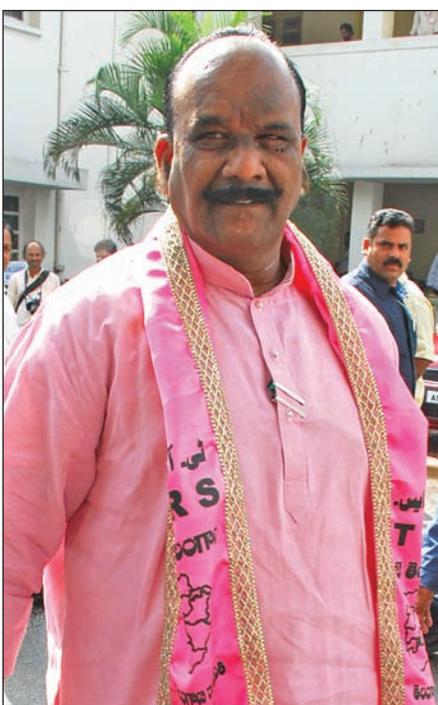
In that case, the Congress will form the government with the support of the MIM, which could win 7-8 MLAs and the CPI with 5. The TRS will have to be content playing a second fiddle in the region, with little or no prospects of emerging strong in the coming days. If TRS fails to secure majority in Telangana, the party may suffer large-scale defections.

TRS in chaos

This explains why the TRS is confused. Not many in the party are sharing the KCR's optimism of winning over 70 seats. Senior leaders like Etela Rajender, V Prakash, Dasoju Shraavan and Nayani Narsimha Reddy are pressing for an alliance with the Congress.

They feel the TRS may not win more than 40 MLAs if it goes alone. They are equally worried over the possible coming together of the BJP and the TDP. If the combine does well, it could sound death knell to the TRS.

The inside story of the TRS is not all that rosy. Bravado of bagging 70 seats notwithstanding, KCR has not readied





up the party at the grass roots level. Excepting the north Telangana districts of Karimnagar, Warangal, Nizamabad and Medak, the party is not in a good shape. The party is organizationally a zilch in the rural south Telangana and the city of Hyderabad.

Moreover, there is no proper methodology in the allocation of tickets in the TRS. KCR is the sole discretionary authority and those who remained with the party, through the struggle are given a go by and the recent entrants are getting precedence. Even those like Peddapalli MP G Vivek, who joined the TRS recently, are unhappy. This shows that not all is pink in the pink party.

Of course, the Congress does want the TRS into its fold and prefers a grand alliance of TRS, CPI and MIM. The CPI senior leader K Narayana on Friday too favoured an alliance of these parties in Telangana. "I wish the Congress takes the lead and takes the TRS with it," Narayana told this paper.

TPCC president Ponnala Lakshmaiah who went to Jangaon on



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

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Contact: tcrcforum@gmail.com



Friday said that the doors of Congress are still open and that he was ready to examine any proposal for seat-sharing from the TRS. Telangana Congress working president Uttam Kumar Reddy too is willing to go with the TRS.

It's a different story that Uttam Kumar Reddy has a hidden agenda behind pushing for a tie-up with TRS. He thinks that if the tie-up happens, TRS may insist on Bhongir Lok Sabha seat and when that happens, his betenior Komatireddy Rajagopal Reddy, younger brother of Nalgonda MLA Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, would not get to contest on party ticket.

Moreover, Uttam doesn't want to face Shankaramma, mother of martyr Srikanth Chary who committed suicide for the cause of Telangana. Though the Telangana Congress leaders are ready to concede more seats to TRS, the high command is not ready to forego the chief ministership. The Congress wants its own man to be the first Chief Minister of Telangana. ♦

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Which way MIM is going?

By Shivkant Bichkunda

There was a lot of chaos in the Hyderabad city since few years in the name of agitations for Telangana and United Andhra Pradesh. It was the Hyderabad which faced many Bandhs and strikes like Sakala Janula Samme etcetera. There was panic as the union government was thinking of making Hyderabad a union territory barring the sitting public representatives to enjoy the luxuries of power.

But all chaos and the instability came to end with the union government passing the Andhra Pradesh State Reorganization Bill 2014 passed in both the houses of Telangana and President of India giving assent to it and the new state coming into being from 2nd June, 2014, the political atmosphere got heat in Hyderabad. The MIM seems to be confused to go either with Congress or YSRCP in its stronghold Old City. At the same time, Danam Nagender, the former minister and MLA from Khairtabad has been appointed to negotiate with the MIM party to have understanding in few seats of Hyderabad to see that minority votes can be stopped from getting di-



verted to other parties.

On the other hand it appears that the MIM is in no mood to have any pre-poll alliance with the congress which re-

mained a mute spectator when Chandrayangutta MLA and MIM floor leader in Assembly Akbaruddin Owaisi got arrested and kept in jail for 40 days for his hatred speech in Bodhan and Asaduddin

Owaisi got arrested in an old case of assaulting police officials in Sanga Reddy of Medak District. It clearly shows the strained relationship between the congress and MIM and these two incidents are surely going to effect or affect the upcoming understanding or alliance.

On the other hand the challenges are being thrown by MIM leaders to Narendra Modi seems to be a clear move to get the Muslim minority votes in their stride with much effort and an effort to get highlighted in the national arena. At the same time many sitting MLAs fear that their seats are not safe and new faces will be introduced by the MIM.

In the past, many allegations leveled against Goshamahal MLA Mukesh Goud that he paid huge amounts to MIM party not to field its candidate from this constituency. The same allegations leveled against Danam Nagender too that huge sums have changed hands for doing political favours which are yet to be examined and established. The MIM is searching for its future in the politics of Telangana as it sees hard days ahead. ♦

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Modi – The Leader

By Shivkant Bichkunda

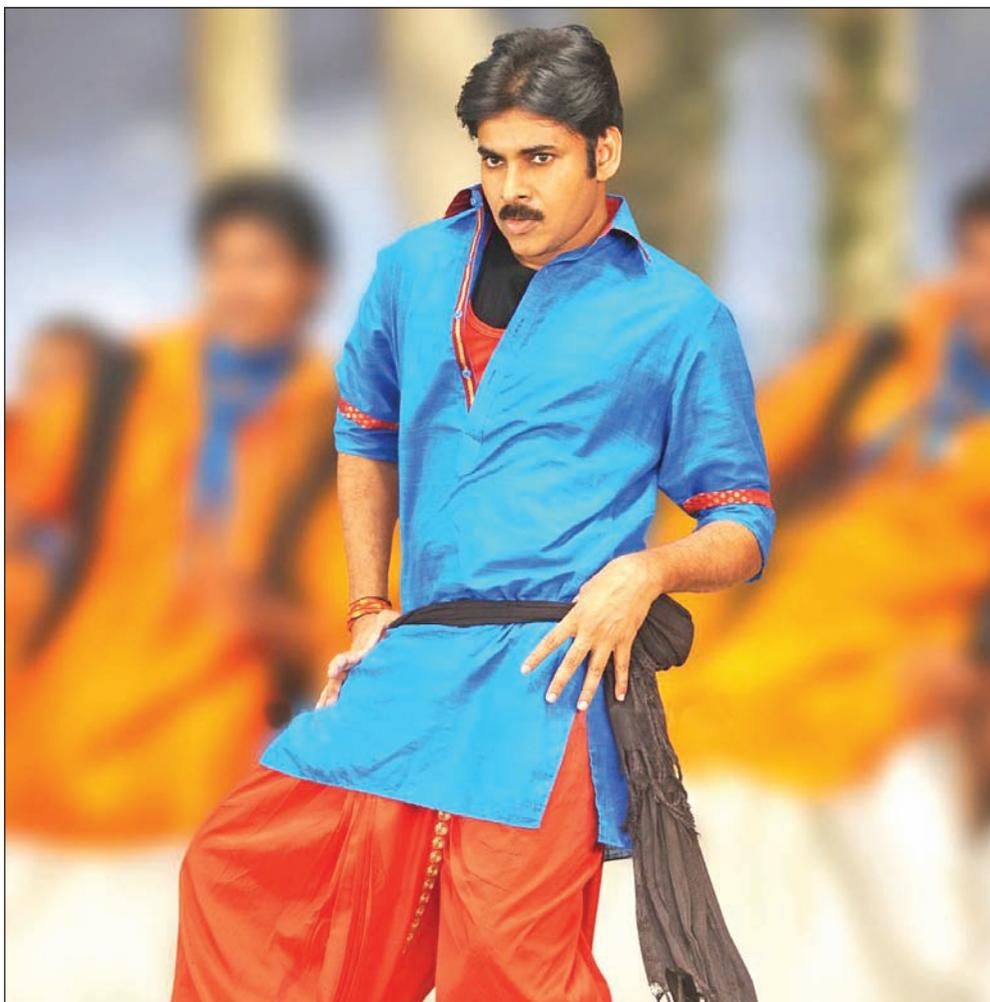
The Three times Chief Minister of Gujarat Narendra Modi appears to be all set to shoulder the responsibility of winning the magic figure to form the next union government on his own. If one analyze his rise in the BJP and NDA then it can be understood.

Firstly, it was a great obstruction in form of veteran BJP leader LK Advani who had strong aspirations and desire to become Prime Minister of India in his life time which has not yet happened and now after crossing the age of 80 years it appears his lifetime dream will remain unfulfilled. Modi and the BJP leadership somehow smartly managed to sideline the veteran Advani and lead the coalition after stiff opposition from many senior leaders. The way Murli Manohar Joshi had to give way to Modi from Varanasi and Lalji Tondon giving way for Rajnath Singh under the close observation of UP incharge Amit Shah clearly shows the shrewdness of Modi.

Modi is surging ahead in all pre-poll surveys and appears to lead the nation from the front and enter the parliament from the front door (Lok Sabha) and not like the present Prime Minister Manmohan Singh who made a joke of democratic set up of India by showing his reluctance to contest for Lok Sabha all these years. The swift moves of Modi clearly suggest that he is surely had an upper hand and will not only defeat his opponents in and out and surely will bring much needed change and relief to the common man.



Pawan – The Cheerleader



With the emotions and drama being played by so called Power Star Pawan Kalyan in his two meetings (one in Hyderabad and second in neighbouring state Vizag) appears to be nothing but a political joke. Many are openly questioning his commitment and timing of formation of his party Jana Sena. Many are criticizing why he started a political outfit when his party is not going to contest in any elections? Pawan Kalyan got some sort of reputation in Telugu film industry and struggled to get success though his elder brother was an established actor and had reputation of Mega Star.

Pawan is said to be always rebellious from his childhood and never compromised in any situations. But all these appears to be bull shit. When he got his head shaved by Paritala Ravi in a land dispute where his bravery, aggression and ferociousness gone? Why he started Common Man Protection Force? Where it disappeared? What it achieved? Many rapes and heinous crimes took place while Pawan's Common Man Protection Force was said to be working for the welfare of the people. Why Pawan shut his mouth on such crimes on the common man? Why all of a sudden

Pawan is praising Lotus and its leader Modi and criticizing his own brother and his congress party? What is his hidden agenda? Is he trying to fool the people? What is his stand about his ex-wives? Pawan must understand that people are not ready to accept his crap and will surely shave his head again if he tries to sell his nonsense to the well informed people of both the states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

The political pundits are of the opinion that Jana Sena party too will be a utter flop show like Praja Rajyam Party and all these hungama is being created by Pawan Kalyan is just to protect his properties in Telangana region and retain his fans in both the states of Telangana and residuary Andhra Pradesh and nothing else; otherwise why he praises Chandrababu Naidu, Gaddar, Jitta Balakrishna Reddy and why he is advocating for Modi and why acting to oppose congress party. All appears to be a melodrama and nobody appears to be taking Pawan or his Jana Sena seriously and Pawan appears to be sporting the role of cheerleader of the current day politics and will dance on the tunes of victory of all and sundry. ♠

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Congress Manifesto for its 3rd term prospects

The Congress manifesto for the upcoming general elections is an exercise aimed at achieving the near impossible task of winning third time in a row at the centre. The UPA in power since 2004 has come up with a poll document which hard sells the dream of making India poverty-free by 2019.

For the first ever time, Congress President Sonia Gandhi and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh sat silently as Vice-President Rahul Gandhi took the floor to explain about the manifesto and take the media queries. Unlike in the past, Rahul was forthcoming and directly attacked BJP's prime ministerial candidate and Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi for his 'exclusionary' agenda.

While highlighting the achievements of the UPA-1 and UPA-2, the manifesto promised to create 10 crore new jobs in the next five years. Both Manmohan Singh and Sonia Gandhi tried to project the achievements of UPA on various fronts. They claimed that the average growth rate of UPA stood around 7 per cent as against the 5.9 per cent of the previous NDA regime.

Manmohan Singh claimed credit for accelerating the growth rate in all



key sectors such as agriculture, industry and service. He claimed that the UPA had bested the NDA on every count. He also reminded people that the foreign investment inflows in the last 10 years were far more than those during the BJP-led NDA regime. Going a step ahead, Manmohan Singh attacked Modi by calling his Gujarat development model a failure.

On its part, the Congress has claimed that it had fulfilled around 90 per cent of its promises made in the election manifestoes of 2004 and 2009. If the achievements of the UPA-1 include the Right to Information Act,

Right to Education Act and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, those of UPA-2 comprise Food Security Act and Land Acquisition Act.

Rahul Gandhi, who played a key role in the preparation of the election manifesto by interacting with masses at various locations in the country, promised to pass as many as six anti-corruption laws if the party is voted back to power. He also promised to bring in laws to ensure healthcare for all, pension for all, and even assured the nation that Congress would decriminalize gay sex.

Congress claimed credit for uplifting as many as 14 crore people out of the poverty line in the last decade. Now, it is promising to create 10 crore new jobs and thus push these families into the middle-class bracket in the next five years. On a normal day, this is an ambitious agenda that could give its principal challenger BJP a run for its money.

But, the ground reality is otherwise. Congress acted too slow and too little on the issue of corruption. Particularly, the reputation of the UPA-2 has been immensely damaged. The 2G spectrum scam, Aadarsh scam, the coal blocks allocation scam and the Commonwealth Games scam, Railgate Scam, SG Scams etc. have dealt a body blow to its credibility.

The only promise Congress boldly delivered was the formation of Telangana state. Though, there was some delay on this count, people of the region would be glad to witness the creation of the new state. But, this alone is not enough to win the Parliament elections all over the country. We will have to see if the party can convince the people of its sincerity and get a third term. ♦

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Will "Madam Speaker" contest from Warangal?

I am a regular reader of Deccan Post and became fan of it for its stand to be distant from creating unnecessary sensations in the name of exclusive reporting. Till now, Deccan Post has published many exclusive stories and won hearts of many like me. With reference to your last week's cover story about the news of Meira Kumar, the Speaker of the last Lok Sabha contesting from Warangal Parliament constituency which is reserved for SC community, I am of the opinion that if Meira Kumar contests from Telangana



dates like Meira Kumar everywhere in the country so that it will help them in reaching the magic figure to form the UPA-III government and help the overall development of the nation.

Jaipal Reddy, E-mail

Can TRS go alone?

Your last week's story on the prospects of TRS going alone in the upcoming general elections nicely analyzed the pros and cons of the current day politics and focused on the winning ability of both the Congress

which granted the statehood for Telangana and the TRS which led the movement for separate state since 2001. I believe that if there was an alliance between Congress and TRS then the combination would have caused the debacle for other political parties like TDP, YSRC, CPM and BJP to some extent. But the ground situation appears that TRS might not win more than 30-35 seats and again will depend upon the support from the congress party.

On the other hand, the Congress seems to enjoy upper hand in Telangana region as the message got spread that it is the Sonia Gandhi who didn't change her decision and stood by her promise though many leaders left the congress party for their opposition to formation of Telangana.

Congress may win more parliament seats in the present day scenario and it is true that TRS candidates are reluctant to contest parliament elections and preferring to go to Assembly. KCR must stop his authoritative style of functioning and keep his over confidence aside or else he will surely pay for his stupid behavior and it will re-

sult in the gain of congress.

Vijay Kumar, Nallagutta

Beware of U-turn taking Politicians

Your last week's article on the politicians of different political parties like former Chief Minister Nallari Kiran Kumar Reddy and Union Tourism Minister Chiranjeevi (the leader of Praja Rajyam Party which got merged with congress) and YS Jagana Mohan Reddy who all took U-turn just after the Congress high command and the UPA government decided to give Telangana which was in its election manifesto. These leaders have never opposed till the last minute and suddenly took U-turn in the name of aspirations of Seemandhra people. They must understand that people are not fools and they expect their leaders to have vision and proper understanding of the issues like Telangana. Its high time people must not forget these leaders' blunders and give votes against such leaders.

Vanitha Rao, Malkajgiri

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region then it will definitely boost its chances throughout the 29th state of India i.e. Telangana. Earlier, Indira Gandhi, the then prime minister of India also contested from Telangana region and since then no national leader has contested from this region. I feel that congress think tank must come up with strategies to field candi-

Can Modi-ism be a boon or bane for BJP in 2014...

By Dr. T.Siva Prasad Reddy-Special Correspondent

After a long hiatus of nearly a decade out of power everyone in rightwing BJP (Faithfuls in NDA also) rested their hopes on coming general elections-2014. They all put faith to wrest power in the name of sustained anti-incumbency while resolving to make scam tainted UPA administration a major electoral ploy till recently. But, the emergence of Prime Ministerial debate within the party had literally bolstered the chances of many a contenders. Right from octogenarians in the party to the Chief Ministers-who held their forte in respective states-election after election, staked their claims to the PM candidature. This was to put ruling Congress-UPA under discomfiture as they had to confront with various other issues including Telangana while facing revolt within because of that.

Many options discussed till Modi's candidature came to the fore as a viable option and in that too for the first time BJP started to project a BC...! But this too was not a smooth affair as BJP had to sacrifice its share of power in Bihar when CM-Nitish Kumar of JD(U)-an old ally walked out of NDA while requesting Governor to sack BJP Ministers from the cabinet...This was a major blow as BJP till that time was riding on a wave established by JD(U) & others as a rightwing alternative to Congress-UPA without unilaterally distancing minorities..This image of BJP-NDA was knit by none other than Vajpayee led group to come back to power-politics after literal alienation as right wing communal party espousing RSS type of Hinduism. This did propel BJP from two members to eighty plus after infamous Rath Yatra by Advani. As the times proved that was not enough to wrest power, hence Vajpayee mode of coalition which allowed BJP led NDA to be in

power for a decade. What is happening now..? Why are so many trustworthy erstwhile loyalists of NDA parting ways?

Not just from the coalition-political parties are parting ways allowing new entries - LJP and others, but the seniors from within the party-who were and are part of erstwhile power echelons are made to leave? They are either cold shouldered in tickets distribution or by passed for latest imports (rationale only those admitting know as opined by Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, Jaswant Singh etc) culminating in contesting as independents or...Many a Chief Ministers of BJP ruling states are retracting (after the latest episodes) to have their own agendas to safe guard their power-centric politics while distributing tickets to their loyalists. This they relate it to the latest developments being witnessed in the party as sycophancy is reigning supreme idolizing on. On further query, sources close to them categorically stated that BJP's Ideologue was different as they believed in collective leadership than personality cult as is being witnessed now...? They were also of the opinion that their party's ideologue along with that of the image of transparent administration by adopting various welfare measures resulted in bringing them back to power as did Modi's in Gujarat. So, the writing is on the walls as they have all & are demanding their rightful share in the present & future not just Gujarat's progress but theirs also..! This has forced the sudden withdrawal of pro-Modi-Gujarat Ads...! Even in Varanasi-Kejriwal is trying to knit a popular support ahead of divisive & communal polarizations as being witnessed in the case of SP and BJP..If that sustains it would not be a cake walk for BJP & Modi (a lot of heartburn among seniors as Murali

Manohar Joshi is displaced from Varanasi) as witnessed in Delhi..Does hero worship be a boon or bane as many a cine glamour and others are queuing up to meet Modi in Gujarat while Raja-Rajnath Singh (& co) who is a cult figure on his own waits in Delhi. As the same awaits in Telangana-wherein confusion reigns supreme as TDP announced its support for BC as CM (no such in AP as Babu aspires) though they are in. In such a scenario does coming together of BJP and TDP help them o likewise BJP should be wary of such coalitions and imports lest.

From 1980, aggressive rightwing Hindutva posture to 1995-2004-Vajpayee's coalition NDA) era to the latest Modism (hardcore or coalition) BJP and NDA have gone through an electoral-evolutionary process. But does Modi has that wit and stature (can he raise above Gujarat CM's stature to become a statesman) to carry forward this euphoria ahead of so many dissensions, disillusion among seniors and hardcore party loyalists including RSS? Can he become magnanimous to give space for all those who sacrificed for the party and the respect to veterans who stood by the party in troubled times..? Or would he treat National politics and elections as that of Gujarat where a few trusted take centre stage to frame policies bulldozing every other in their run upto elections and winning? Can the same formula work at the national level wherein like Modi-if CMs of BJP ruling states stake their claim to such supremacy along with belittled or sidelined veterans and staunch loyalists? Will BJP and Modi-ism eschew a trusted line to wrest power in mutual faith or run parallel to antagonize all sections within the party paving way for. ♦

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Competition - For the Welfare of Society

By Jaywant Naidu

Competition Commission of India is a body of the Government of India responsible for enforcing The Competition Act, 2002 throughout India and to prevent activities that have an adverse effect on competition in India. It was established on 14th October 2003. It became fully functional in May 2009. The Competition Act, 2002, as amended by the Competition (Amendment) Act, 2007, follows the philosophy of modern competition laws. The Act prohibits anti-competitive agreements, abuse of dominant position by enterprises and regulates combinations (acquisition, acquiring of control and merger and acquisition), which causes or likely to cause an appreciable adverse effect on competition within India. The objectives of the Act are sought to be achieved through the Competition Commission of India (CCI), which has been established by the Central Government with effect from 14th October 2003. CCI consists of a Chairperson and 6 Members appointed by the Central Government. It is the duty of the Commission to eliminate practices having adverse effect on competition, promote and sustain competition, protect the interests of consumers and ensure freedom of trade in the markets of India.

The Commission is also required to give opinion on competition issues on a reference received from a statutory authority established under any law and to undertake competition advocacy, create public awareness and impart training on competition issues. To achieve its objectives, the Competition Commission of India endeavours to do the following: Make the markets work for the benefit and welfare of consumers. Ensure fair and healthy competition in economic activities in the country for faster and inclusive growth and development of economy. Implement competition policies with an aim to effectuate the most efficient utilization of economic resources.

Develop and nurture effective relations and interactions with sectoral regulators to ensure smooth alignment of sectoral regulatory laws in tandem with the competition law. Effectively carry out competition advocacy and spread the information on benefits of competition among all stakeholders to establish and nurture competition culture in Indian economy.

IMPORTANT FINDINGS:

In December 2010, CCI instituted a probe to examine if there was any cartelization among traders when onion prices touched 80 Rupees, but did not find sufficient evidence of market manipulation.

In June 2012, CCI imposed a fine of 63.07 billion (US\$1.0 billion) 11 cement companies for cartelization. CCI claimed that cement companies met regularly to fix prices, control market share and hold back supply which earned them illegal profits.

In January 2013, CCI modified clauses in agreements between real estate company DLF Limited and apartment buyers. Some of the important modifications were: The Builder can not undertake any additional construction beyond the approved building plan given to the buyers. The builder will not have complete ownership of open spaces within the residential project area

not sold. Not just the buyer but the builder will be liable for any defaults. All payments made by the buyers must be based on construction milestones and not "on demand". The builder will not have the sole power to form the owner's association.

On 8th February 2013, CCI imposed a penalty of 522 million (US \$ 8.5 million) on the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) for misusing its dominant position. The CCI found that IPL team ownership agreements were unfair and discriminatory, and that the terms of the IPL franchise agreements were loaded in favour of BCCI and franchises had no say in the terms of the contract. The CCI ordered BCCI to "cease and desist" from any practice in future denying market access to potential competitors and not use its regulatory powers in deciding matters relating to its commercial activities.

In 2014, CCI has imposed a penalty of Rs. 18.38 crores on Bengal Chemist and Druggist Association (BCDA) and its office bearers for anti-competitive practices.

Latest, Competition Commission of India (CCI) has fined Google Rs 1 crore for failing to co-operate in an on-going investigation. CCI is investigating a 2012 complaint that alleged Mountain View, California-based Google was abusing its dominant position in online search and search advertising.

PACT WITH BRICS:

CCI plans to enter into a pact with the BRICS grouping to boost cooperation in areas including merger deals and global cartel probes that could have implications for competition in the Indian market. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) keeps a tab on unfair business practices across sectors. It is considering a memorandum of understanding with BRICS nations as a grouping, China, Japan and other countries. Apart from India, the nations in the BRICS bloc are Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa.

The idea was discussed during the BRICS International Competition Conference held in the New Delhi in November 2013, where regulators from these jurisdictions resolved to strengthen

their cooperation. Such agreements would enable its professional staff to interact with their counterparts and work jointly to mutual advantage on matters, "more specifically on global cartel investigations and on mergers and acquisitions with the potential of adverse effects on competition in India." They would also provide the necessary umbrella for cross-border learning through short-training programs.

Prime Minister of India Dr Manmohan Singh spoke on the occasion and said "In 1991, India embarked on a path of economic reforms, the essential elements of which were liberalization, privatization and globalization. The erstwhile Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act of 1969, enacted at a time when India had a "command and control" economic policy paradigm, was inadequate to regulate the market and ensure promotion of competition therein. A modern Competition Act in tune with the new economic philosophy was required. This led Parliament to enact the Competition Act, 2002. Unlike the MRTP Act, the new Competition law does not restrict the size of firms or the concentration of ownership. Emerging economies face unique challenges in the enforcement of competition law.

In addition to the problems of under development, institutional design problems and government regulation characterize our economies. These are real-world challenges that have to be recognized for the successful implementation of an antitrust regime. A competition law enforcement regime cannot operate in isolation but instead is shaped and transformed by the existing socio-economic ideology and by other available policy tools.

The economic objectives promoted by competition law on the one hand and prevailing socio-economic ideologies on the other are often in conflict with each other in economies in transition. This could limit the role and potential of competition law enforcement regimes. Increased awareness of competition rules resulting in the establishment of a competition culture in our economies can, therefore, go a long way in the effective implementation of

competition law. There is an increasing need to recognize the complementarities between competition law enforcement and liberalization of markets for procurement. Public procurement, more specifically, is a substantial slice of State spending in emerging economies. Elimination of unnecessary restrictions and better tender design and specification can enhance possibilities for effective competition, thereby making bid rigging more difficult.

As a result, competitive procurement markets can help save valuable fiscal resources and release funds for development. State owned or public sector enterprises are another challenge. By virtue of their ownership, they have been shielded from competition and have long enjoyed captive markets. A crucial issue is the exposure of these firms to competition. The government may own a public sector firm and exercise the normal rights of ownership. This does not mean it should shelter it from competition as well.

Unfortunately, government ownership inevitably brings with it a bureaucratic style of decision-making and the end result is that the enterprise cannot compete in a market populated by equals. The solution lies in giving public sector firms greater functional autonomy and freeing them from bureaucratic control, and not in tolerating a slip in their competitiveness and then shielding them from competition. Several possible distortions can arise because of the advantages some public sector businesses have due to their government ownership.

Competitive neutrality requires that the government not use its legislative and fiscal powers to give undue advantage to its own businesses over the private sector. Going forward, our governments will have to increasingly adopt



competition neutral policies. Business and money know no geographical boundaries. The increasing integration of the world economy in the form of multi-jurisdictional mergers and cross-border anti-competitive conduct makes international cooperation vitally important for all modern competition authorities. This takes on greater significance in view of the increasing trade flows among BRICS nations. BRICS Competition Authorities are also ideally positioned to bridge the gap between mature competition authorities and nascent ones." ♦

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Paying a Heavy Price	
COMPANY	PENALTY
Jaiprakash Asso	1323.60
UltraTech Cement	1175.49
Ambuja Cements	1163.91
ACC	1147.59
Lafarge India	480.01
Century Textiles	274.02
Madras Cements	258.63
India Cements	187.48
Binani Cement	167.32
JK Cement	128.54
CMA	0.73
TOTAL	6307.32

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Brahmotsavams of Lord Sri Venkata Kodandarama Swamy Begins

The Navahnika (nine-day) brahmotsavams commenced in the famous shrine of Lord Sri Venkata Rama in Sri Kodanda Rama Swamy temple in Tirupati with Dhwajaroohana Mahotsavam on Friday.



The temple administration of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams has made elaborate arrangements than never before by erecting pandals, floral decorations, electrical illumination arches with mythological themes to celebrate this mega religious fete in this unique ancient temple of Lord Sri Rama.

The event started at around 8am with the chanting of vedic hymns by temple priests as per Vaikhana Agama and the holy flag with "Garuda Chitra Patham" has been hoisted on the temple pillar in Mesha Lagnam by 8.50am (Dhwajaroohanam time is between 8am to 8.58am) in a celestial vigour. Hundreds of devotees converged to witness the fete.



LAUGH OUT LOUD

Human brain is the most outstanding object in world. It functions 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. It functions right from the time we are born, and stop only when we enter the examination hall

Exams are like Girl friends
 - Too many questions
 - Difficult to understand
 - More explanation is needed
 - Result is always fail!

 A student grabbed a coin, Flipped it in the air & said, "Head, I go to sleep." Tail, I watch a movie. If it stands on the edge I'll study

 Who said English is easy???
 Fill in the blanks with YES or NO.
 1. ___ I don't have Brain....
 2. ___ I don't have Sense....
 3. ___ I am Stupid....

HEALTH TIPS

Coriander help in summers

Some people suffer from headaches during summers because of the heat. This tip reduces the head pain to a great extent.

Coriander seeds (dhaniya) are made into a paste and the paste is applied on the forehead. If fresh green coriander is available, then the leaves are made into a fine paste and rubbed on the forehead. This relieves the pain.

Rest or swim during the high heat of the day Walk in the moonlight Insure that you take a vacation, preferably in a cooler climate with a relaxed schedule Drink plenty of liquids Consume your heaviest meal between 10 am and 2 pm (Pitta time) Eat cooling foods, favoring those that are; Use cooling herbs and essential oils, such as; Mint, Cilantro, Fennel, Rose and Sandalwood Sweet: Melon, Cucumber, Pumpkin Seed, Maple Syrup Astringent: Pomegranate, Blueberry, Spinach, Sunflower Seed, Chickpea Wear light, breathable clothing in shades between blue and cool green or white Sleep on your right side, this facilitates cooling left nostril breathing Allow for leisure time Schedule time for pleasurable things Practice moderation in all matters Avoid heated confrontations, deadline pressures, artificial stimulants and alcohol, hot, spicy and salty foods, and the mid-day sun.



SUDOKU 315

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

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-314

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

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Answer 314: Krishna Rao, AS Rao Nagar.

ASTRO FOCUS

ARIES: New friends are likely to be made this week and the good news is that they would be helpful links far into the future in both career and personal life. People would look to you for advice. Your positive attitude at work would open new avenues for you and the hard work that you do would not go unnoticed. Any move to change the jobs may be stalled for time being.

TAURUS: Happy news from a friend or a close relative will boost your spirits and bring cheerful moments. You have a lifetime dedication for the thing that you believe in. There is bound to be subtle changes in you, both within and outside. Career prospects are looking positive this week. Job prospects are also looking fine and you would be heading towards prosperity. Try to avoid sharing your secrets with others.

GEMINI: Your quest for knowledge will awaken your desire to read and learn. You may also derive the maximum benefit from the available opportunities. You will accept the most challenges quite gamely. College students will venture into small part time jobs or short-term courses. Think with a rational mind, as it could be tested this week. A new kind of project could land in your lap.

CANCER: This week is particularly good as what you think and put into practical shape, could be the foundation stone for your changed outlook. Knowing your real skills would enable you to improve them. On career front, you have to work hard and try to please your higher officials. Your hard efforts would yield the desired results.

LEO: You may get the chance to attend seminars and exhibitions that will bring you in touch with the right kind of people. You need take a tight approach towards your expenditure to maintain a comfortable cash flow position. The sudden influence of someone powerful and influential would bring a new direction to your career. For some of you it is time to gauge whether you are on the right track on career front.

VIRGO: Do not let your negative thoughts make you miss some of the brilliant opportunities that will come your way. Friends and relatives would do favors and you would feel happy being in their company. Believe in yourself and put in the extra effort as by this you are sure to get out of any tricky situation. Good things will happen if you put your time and effort into what really counts.

LIBRA: Your self-esteem and confidence will be high. Any investment will prove profitable. The atmosphere at home will be congenial. There might be chance of meeting a spiritual guru who would mould your life better. You would make effort to work towards building a bright future for yourself. Students studying higher education will have a good time and get timely support for your parents.

SCORPIO: There are signs that a deep urge to explore new horizons will raise your career graph. It would be better for you to plan strategies and implements them. There are indications of planning a short pleasure trip with partner to enjoy time together. Happy marital life is assured if you take care of wife/Spouse.

SAGITTARIUS: You might fail in achieving set target as your policy of persuasive communication skills. Computer professionals, looking for an overseas career are likely to get an opportunity to realize their dream by the week end. You will be sweet and smooth talker and shall be benefited by your honest and righteous attitude. Keep in mind that jealousy on your part could create a rift in your lovely relationship.

CAPRICORN: The first half in particular promises a good time when you are likely to fulfill milestones. Those who are seeking job would get a chance to get into something big. A sudden romantic development with someone you have known for long might come as a surprise in this week.

AQUARIUS: You are likely to get into a big occasion for progress. Your work will give you satisfaction. Happy news from a friend or a close relative will boost your spirits and bring cheerful moments. You can expect wonderful results in your career. Those doing job need to maintain harmony with their colleagues. Be cautious from your adversaries. Make proper use of your time.

PISCES: Do not share your confidential matters with people you cannot trust, or those whom you feel could disclose your secrets. Teamwork, rather than attempting to go alone, will bring better results. You should be serious in your project work as it has the potential for long-term benefits. You just might start thinking of new career and job options.

We all are humans

Yash Birla spoke to Deccan Post about his life and business.

What is it all about being a 'Yash Birla'?

I have no qualms about hailing from a big family. We all are humans. We are susceptible to making mistakes and we have to accept life as it comes. Everyone has strengths and weaknesses.

How do you see success or failure in life?

It is very important to take failure in the stride of life. Maybe, it is a time which helps us to rectify things or do introspection. Failure is not the end of everything. It's an opportunity to make things better and remove the wrong things which may have led to the same.

How do you manage your thoughts?

At times, I am very impatient. I want to implement everything at the drop of a hat whenever I get an idea. But this could be counter productive also. I try to read spiritual lines of our rich heritage and learn to overcome the situation.

What is the essence of life?

Life is not about sacrificing everything. There is no need to run away from the riches of life. Wealth is

important, but there should be no attachment for it. Everything is temporary. It is very important to understand that we have come to this world with a purpose and have to try and achieve it, in the given time frame.

How strict are you at Business?

I have always learnt discipline from my father. In my childhood, I did not realize the importance. I even bunked a business board meeting to celebrate my birthday. But, today I realize why my father got angry and gave me his piece of mind for what I had done. I would definitely not want my children to repeat such mistakes. Business and way of living are of utmost importance in life.

What do you expect from the next generation?

The next generation will receive all that I am carefully leaving for them. This includes a wonderful home which has been very aesthetically maintained.

How do you spend your time?

Business keeps my schedule very hectic. Other than that, I am interested in Art and have a large collection. I also appreciate music. I do 'Pranayama', meditate and read spiritual texts. ♦

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Is Mugdha dating two guys?



Mugdha Godse these days is being linked with two men – model-actor Rahul Dev and her reality show co-star, Ranvir Shorey. “How can I date two guys at the same time? Ranvir and I are friends. There is nothing more to that,” says the model-actress.



What about her equation with Rahul? “I am not comfortable talking about my personal life. He is somebody I can count on; he’s more than a friend to me,” she says.

A source close to the actress adds, “They are definitely not ‘just friends’. Whenever she is in Delhi, she meets him as his son resides there. They have known each other for long, as they belong to the same fraternity and have common friends. But it was only recently that they got drawn to each other.”

Has Charmi got threatened?

Well, before you jump into your own assumptions, here is the news. Charmi Kaur's forthcoming film Pratighatana, which has been doing very little buzz, was supposed to release on April 4 at first. After knowing that Mohan Babu and Ram Gopal Varma's much-awaited Rowdy is due for release on April 4, the makers of Pratighatana deferred their release.

Directed by Tammareddy Bharadwaj, the movie features Charmi as a TV journalist. Charmi clarified that her film is not releasing on April 4th but may hit the screens on April 18th. Considering that Charmi worked with Titans Mohan Babu (Political Rowdy) and Ram Gopal Varma (Dongala Mutha), she said to be having due respect on duo and reportedly don't want to compete with the Titans. At the same time, Rowdy is making good buzz after its first look, trailer and music strike a chord. Expectations on the film are high and Manchu Vishnu himself is releasing the film in U.S. All these have reportedly threatened Charmi as there is no noise of her film. On flip side, Charmi's career is on a downward spiral and she desperately need success. Her last film Prema Oka Maikam too is a debacle. Charmi is pinning hopes on her next and want to be out of competition. Smart move Charmi.

-DP Desk



DO YOU KNOW

Alcoholism is a killer disease?

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PM urged to reject US pressure tactics

By V Sundar Raja

A group of India and American non-profit organizations and other groups have urged the Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh, not to succumb to the pressure of the US administration and reject the misleading allegations of US Business associations on India's trade and economic policies.

The unilateral pressure by US administration on India, at the behest of US Business Associations lobby through US International Trade Commission (USITC) investigations and request to USTR to enlist India under Priority Foreign Country under Special 301 review, lacks legitimacy under WTO framework, the signatories to the letter said.

Indian shares could start strongly on Monday on the back of demand from institutional investors ahead of the end of the fiscal year on March 31st, extending a rally after indexes hit record highs for five consecutive sessions. Investors will then eye the RBI's policy review on April 1st, with analysts widely expecting it to keep interest rates on hold.

Foreign flows would remain on watch after Indian stocks have so far ignored everything negative globally, with overseas funds purchasing a net \$ 3 billion so far this month.



A combination of foreign flows, hopes for a recovery in the domestic economy, and bets that main opposition Bharatiya Janata Party, perceived as more business-friendly, will come to power have driven strong gains in India's NSE index.

India's bond and forex markets would be closed on Monday because of a local holiday and on Tuesday because of the end of the fiscal year.

The Reserve Bank of India tightened and streamlined the norms regarding issuance of pre-paid payment instru-

ments and capped their maximum value at Rs 50,000/-.

The developments in the pre-paid payment instrument segment have necessitated a comprehensive review of guidelines issued so far," RBI said in a statement today, adding that the maximum balance of any such instrument should not exceed Rs 50,000/-. To regulate the issue and operation of Pre-paid Payment Instruments, the RBI had laid out the guidelines for issuance of pre-paid instruments by banks and non-banks entities.

Reliance Industries (RELI.NS) and its partners should continue to sell gas at current prices from its D6 block following a delay to a new pricing regime ordered by the Election Commission of India, a government source said on Friday.

Reliance's five-year gas sales pacts with sectors including fertiliser makers and power will expire on March 31, requiring buyers to sign new contracts for supplies from its D6 block in the Krishna Godavari basin. ♦

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

DECCAN POST

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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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