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BJP's Road to Telangana



TRS & BJP emerging gainers in Telangana

By Our Political Correspondent

The recent developments in Telangana have led to polarization of political forces in the region. Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) and BJP appear to be clear gainers in the process, while old horses Congress and TDP are struggling to survive. The fledgling YSR Congress Party floated by YSR's son is although strong in coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema regions; it is unable to pick up in Telangana, thanks to its ambivalent stand on the separate statehood demand.

Last week's joining of two Congress MPs – G Vivek and Manda Jagannatham and former MP and Congress senior leader K Keshav Rao – into TRS is a big blow to the grand old party headed by Sonia Gandhi. TRS led by K Chandrasekhar Rao got a big boost both in terms of its qualitative and quantitative impact. Quantity wise, TRS base has been expanded to new areas and two more MPs are added to its tally of present two MPs. Quality wise, the joining of two prominent Dalits – one Mala and another Madiga – leaders will go a long way in strengthening the party's base among down-trodden sections. This helps TRS at a time when it was facing the criticism that it has become a party of upper castes.

The joining of senior SC leaders like G Vinod, G Vivek (both sons of congress veteran G Venkatswamy), Manda Jagannatham and Kadium Srihari is a positive development for the Telangana movement too.

Of course, there are some people who say that these leaders would be fielded from only SC reserved seats and TRS chief K Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR) does not have better candidates than these newly joined leaders. That may be true. But, these leaders are not novices or rubber stamps to be manipulated by any leader. Each of them is a veteran in their own respect. Whether one likes it or not, TRS has become a reasonably stronger force in at least four northern Telangana districts – Warangal, Karimnagar, Nizamabad and Medak. It is growing in other districts too, but whoever wants to become a MP or MLA in these northern T-districts will have to consider TRS as their first option to test their political waters.

That is easier said than done. With the sudden change in the Telangana political turf, things are really hotting up. If TRS has enjoyed all the monopoly over

T-sentiment over others till now; such days of enjoying exclusive advantage is well past its prime.

Nagam joins BJP

BJP too has gained a lot in the last few months after its central leadership has seriously taken up the Telangana statehood issue. But the dramatic entry of senior leader and Nagar Kurnool MLA Nagam Janardhan Reddy into BJP has come as a shot in the arm for the saffron brigade which was having many advantages but yet failing to connect with the people of the T-region. With the recent joining of Nagam Janardhan Reddy, suddenly political equations between BJP and TRS, TDP and YSRCP began changing. Nagam, who started his political career three decades ago with NTR's TDP has parted ways with Chandrababu Naidu on Telangana issue and founded Telangana Nagara Samithi, a non-political organization to spearhead his stir. Here too, the negative role of the TRS leadership is to be blamed for pushing Nagam into a corner only to frustrate him. Had Nagam been allowed to play a role in the Telangana political

parties' Joint Action Committee (T-JAC), things would have been otherwise. He would have remained as an independent and continued his stir or even converted his Telangana Nagara Samithi into a political party. But, the efforts of TRS chief KCR to prevent his entry into T-JAC and compel him to join TRS at any cost have prompted Nagam instead to choose and join BJP and emerge as a counter-force to KCR and his TRS in the southern districts of Telangana. The influence of Nagam, a leader widely acclaimed for his anti-corruption movement and Telangana movement have spread like wild fire in areas where TRS has not gone.

Many leading lights of T-movement identify Nagam as a leader having credibility in public life. This was seen when he was waging a solitary war with illegal mining undertaken by Gali Janardhan Reddy during YSR's five year tenure between 2004-2009. The manner in which Nagam protested against Chandrababu Naidu for taking a U-turn is another example. Nagam stint as Chairman of Public Accounts Committee exposing Rs 5,500 crores of scam in Jalayaganam is another feather in his cap.





All these have enabled Nagam to emerge as a leader of impeccable standards.

There is a saying among political circles in Hyderabad these days – that like Chandrababu Naidu who committed a big mistake by dropping KCR out of his cabinet in 1999 in preference to former IPS official K Vijayarama Rao, now KCR too made a similar blunder by blocking Nagam from joining JAC, thus compelling him to join BJP.

Thanks to Nagam's entry, today, BJP has become an alternative platform to scores of Telangana leaders, who could

not make it to TRS simply because of KCR's dictatorial attitude. There are many who love to be associated with T cause, but are unable to develop communication with KCR. Such leaders are forced to establish contacts either with KCR's children, KT Rama Rao, or Kavita or even his nephew Harish Rao. Some seniors as well as those who come from decent backgrounds deem it as -- below their dignity to become associates of KTR, Kavita or Harish Rao. For all such people, BJP has become a viable option. According to indications, some more leaders like TDP MLAs K Hareeshwar

Reddy, S Venugopalachary and Jaipal Yadav and P Ramulu – are now making attempts to reach out to Nagam and join BJP as their option in case, TDP fails to pick up in local body elections. Even TRS MLA Pocharam Srinivasa Reddy who was previously with TDP too is toying with the idea of drifting towards BJP as he is known to enjoy good rapport with Nagam.

Deccan Post random survey

An interesting trend which began and steadily developing is the manner in which people of Telangana region are seen

preferring to vote for TRS for the Assembly seats and vote for the BJP for Lok Sabha seats. This way, they want to demonstrate that they would accept both the parties which are vocal in demanding Telangana state. According to a random survey commissioned by Deccan Post last fortnight, parties like TRS and BJP are standing at No 1 and 2 positions in Telangana, respectively. If TRS is likely to surge ahead in 6-7 Lok Sabha seats, mostly in northern Telangana districts, BJP is a front runner in at least 2 Lok Sabha seats – Mahabubnagar and Secunderabad.





Then, there are three more political combinations that will fight it out in next elections from the region. They are ruling Congress, which may go alone, and TDP which may go with the Left parties CPI and CPM, and then YSR Congress which may have a seat adjustment with MIM. Another smaller party, CPI (New Democracy) may have alliance with either TRS or remain neutral and seek support of all.

Compared to Congress, TDP is better placed in Telangana for strategic reasons. TDP which has a minimum base in all the constituencies in the region has gained a little, thanks to the party's decision to drop its opposition to T state. Of course, its president Chandrababu Naidu is not saying in favour of T state, but his leaders in the region are claiming that their first priority to form the T state after the polls.

As a result, TDP with the help of CPI and CPM may come third pushing behind ruling Congress to fourth slot. TDP which is likely to surge ahead in Khammam Lok Sabha seat is sure to improve its position in some other seats like Nalgonda and Malkajigiri Lok Sabha segments in the next few months. While, there may be surprises from BJP and TDP in 5 cornered contests in Telangana.

Now, the Congress situation has become pathetic. The party is being pulled in different directions by different camps, each with the hope of outwitting the other. While CM Kiran Kumar Reddy is telling the high command bosses that he alone can lead the party to victory

in 2014, the high command is unable to decide whether to go by him or not.

Dissidents, including Deputy CM Damodar Rajanarsimha, PCC president Botsa Satyanarayana, senior minister K Jana Reddy and sacked minister DL Ravindra Reddy and union minister K Chiranjeevi, all have launched a frontal attack on the CM for his unilateral style of functioning and arbitrary decisions on important governmental schemes.

All these dissidents have met party president Sonia Gandhi and other seniors in Delhi in the last one month and told her that the party cannot win, if it goes to polls under Kiran's leadership. They also questioned the authoritarian sacking of two ministers – DL Ravindra Reddy now and P Shankar Rao in the past, at a time when Congress does not have majority in the assembly. Besides, there are some rumblings that these two ministers got sacked by Kiran only at the behest of YS Jagan Mohan Reddy. Despite being charge sheeted by the CBI, two tainted ministers known to be loyal to YSRCP were asked to continue in the cabinet. All this is being observed by the party high command which is secretly involved in taking some shocking stand over state division.

The impression that the dissidents got from the high command is that the CM would not be continued, if the party fails in the local bodies' elections which appears to be certain. ♦

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BJP must project Modi

What more evidence in a democracy a political leader needs than winning an election handsomely? This is what Gujarat Chief Minister Narendra Modi has done in the last Assembly elections in the state and he repeated it again in the just concluded by-polls to two Lok Sabha seats – Porbandar and Banaskanta and four Assembly seats – Limbadi, Morva Hadai, Jetpur and Doraji (all previously held by the Congress).

The poor Congress which never misses an opportunity to beat Modi to reclaim its secular credentials has lost very badly, by losing its two MP seats to BJP. This is only statistical evidence the charismatic Gujarat CM needs to stake his claim for the PM post in the next general elections. Being a simple man, he openly admitted his prime ministerial ambitions.

But, as the BJP's top brass met at Goa to pick him as the Chairman of the Campaign Committee for the coming Assembly elections in four northern states, Modi is the obvious choice for the party. If he is made the chairman of the campaign committee, then none can stop him from becoming the BJP's or even NDA's Prime Ministerial candidate in 2014 Lok Sabha elections. But, unfortunately, Modi has been facing stiff resistance both from within and out side the BJP for being projected as the BJP's Prime Ministerial candidate. From outside, JD(U) an ally in the NDA which rules Bihar has been busy throwing hurdles in Modi's path by raking his past links with the communal carnage in Gujarat in post-Godhra riots in 2002.

From within the party, a strong lobby led by former Deputy Prime Minister and party's strongman LK Advani is

very actively trying his best to block the prospects of Modi being declared as the next PM candidate. This was amply demonstrated by the absence of Advani on the first day of the BJP meet in Goa on June 7th. It is meaningless how both Bihar CM and JD (U) leader Nitish Kumar has been again and again raising the unacceptability of Modi as the NDA's choice for the top post. Nitish, being a popular CM of Bihar

secularists. But, how can one explain the opposition of Advani to Modi's rising popularity when he is all set to turn 84 years next year and still aspiring for the PM post when 60 per cent of the country's population is just below 45 years? Of course, Advani is an experienced and able leader of BJP.

But, he should gracefully give up the ambition of becoming the PM after the next polls. In his eagerness to be projected as the PM nominee or more particularly to stall Modi, Advani has stooped to new lows in the last few months. First, Advani praised Sushma Swaraj as a better leader with "Vajpayee like qualities" to become the PM. Then, Advani selected Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan as an efficient CM and the one who developed a backward state like Madhya Pradesh, unlike Modi who just bettered the already developed Gujarat. Though, there was no need for Advani to compare Modi with another BJP CM like Chouhan, he did it deliberately to belittle Modi.

Finally, Advani tried to project former BJP President Nitin Gadkari as the campaign committee chairman. All his efforts have failed and Modi emerged stronger after every effort. The BJP should remember that people of the country are ready to vote for BJP and NDA, if only some one like Modi

is projected as the PM candidate. Otherwise, the combine may lose the election. Today, most of the people in the country desire to be led by some leader of national stature and known qualities and certainly not by some politician who is nominated as PM by a few sitting in Delhi. ♦

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is unable to understand the importance of a democratically elected CM in a major state like Gujarat. Nitish should know that just by harping on someone's past, the will of the people cannot be subverted.

At least we can understand, if an ally like JD (U) with socialistic leanings is opposing Modi, a hate figure for

KCR targets Congress vote bank

The ongoing political situation proves it to be true that TRS President is all set to target the Congress vote bank as well as its Dalit leaders too. In a recent significant development, G Vinod, Former Minister and G Vivek, MP from Peddapalli sons of Congress veteran leader G Venkatswamy, K Keshav Rao, former MP and PCC President and Manda Jagannatham, MP from Nagar Kurnool have decided to join TRS by quitting the ruling congress party. I believe that they got strong indications that the congress high command is not in a mood to take a favourable decision for the demand of Telangana statehood. Before the joining of the above Dalit MPs the TRS party has no Dalit leaders for sure and it was desperately looking for leaders who can attract Dalit votes which considered as the congress vote bank in the past. I really liked the last week's cover story which was very close to the reality and I hope that many more

leaders from Congress, TDP and YSR Congress Party in Telangana region will have migration towards TRS and BJP. Let's see who is in queue?

C Bhaskar Reddy, Malakpet

TDP's Mahanadu: A damp squib

After reading your last week's edit page people like me will strongly agree with the opinion that the TDP and its Chief Chandra Babu Naidu are real desperate to gain the lost strength and in the process the TDP leader is trying everything like Vastunna Mee Kosam Padayatra and now Mahanadu. It appears that the people do not believe him in any region due to his double standard politics. The congress is facing a tough time in the state as well as at the centre but the principal opposition party (TDP) is not able to garner the support of the common

man. Sometimes he promises free power to the farmers which he opposed in the past and promises of much more welfare

schemes to the downtrodden sections but he never cared for the real welfare of the people when he was the Chief Minister and he was just busy focusing on IT sector and building Flyover bridges in the urban areas of the state. Naidu is spending a lot of money to regain the lost charm but will he? Time will tell.

Sujatha, E-mail

PM must be a Lok Sabha Member

Take this opportunity to congratulate you for publishing a very interesting and educating article titled "Prime Minister must be a Lok Sabha Member". It appears that the political parties especially Congress party is misusing its authority of power and insulting our esteemed constitution. When our Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh does not want to win the votes and hearts of the citizens of this great nation then why he is continuing to be in power by multiple back

door entries like Rajya Sabha membership? When he contested from Delhi for Lok Sabha he lost the election there which indicates that he does not enjoy popularity even in Delhi voters. One can not understand the motive of the congress party by choosing him as its PM candidate consecutively 2nd time and when everyone expected that Dr Singh will retire now it came as a shock to everyone by seeing that he is re-nominated for another term of Rajya Sabha. The PM should be the leader of the people and should be elected by the people and parties should immediately stop selecting PM.

T Venkatesh, MJ Market

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



BJP Demands Congress to push bill on Separate Telangana in Parliament

By B Shivkant



The much awaited suspense over what solo leader Nagam Janardhan Reddy would do has formally ended with his joining the BJP. He merged his Telangana Nagara Sabha (TNS) into the BJP at a mammoth public meeting held on 3rd June at the sprawling grounds of Nizam College in the heart of Hyderabad. The crowds gathered in large numbers surprising the expectations of many political pundits.

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) President Rajnath Singh addressing the public meeting hit out at the Congress-led UPA Government for backtracking on its promise of creating a separate state of Telangana to be carved out of Andhra Pradesh. The BJP leader stated "even the President of our country addressed the Joint Parliamentary session and said that a separate Telangana state would be created, which was actually a communication by the UPA Government to the nation. I want to convey to the friends of this Congress Government that promises should not be made unless they are sure of fulfilling the same," he said.

Rajnath Singh was speaking at the public meeting held at Nizam College grounds where former TDP leader and Nagar-Kurnool MLA Dr Nagam Janardhan Reddy merged his Telangana Nagaara Samithi, TNS - with the BJP. The "BJP and the NDA will support the bill fully without any condition. If necessary, you convene a special session for forming separate Telangana and BJP will support it even then," BJP President Rajnath Singh said in Hyderabad. Slamming Congress for "betraying" Telangana people on the promise of forming the separate state, he blamed the

Congress led UPA government for the large scale suicides by youth in support of the Telangana demand. He said his party would create Telangana state within a few months if NDA came to power after the next general elections.

Seeking to mount pressure on the

ruling Congress, BJP leaders demanded that the government should move a bill in the Parliament for formation of separate Telangana or convene a special session for the purpose. The saffron party has been in the forefront of separate Telangana agitation ever since it severed its ties with the TDP headed by Chandrababu Naidu

in 2005. As if to clarify some doubts that are still lingering, Rajnath Singh also asserted that BJP would not ally with any party that is opposed to the formation of separate Telangana even if it fails to get clear majority in the elections.

Extending a warm welcome to Nagam and his TNS, the National BJP president exhorted that Nagam is not alone and that the entire BJP which is spread wide across the nation shall stand by Nagam and the people of Telangana who are seeking separate state. Nagam as if posing a counter to the TRS leadership questioned as to "how a regional party like the TRS that claims to sweep the T-region which has 17 Lok Sabha seats can get the bill passed when 272 MPs in the Lok Sabha are required"?

Nagam stated that since the congress led UPA government is not sincere about forming the Telangana State; it was only possible if congress is voted out of power. Nagam reiterated his faith in the BJP by declaring that as and when BJP comes to power at the centre, within 100 days the new state of Telangana shall be formed.

Many observers recall the previous day's meeting the TRS had at the same venue and it is being openly admitted that the meeting organized by Nagam and BJP was a great success as many people thronged the meeting and heard patiently the speeches made by several leaders. At last, good days for the people of Telangana as BJP led NDA is showing all signs of coming to power and sounding very committed over formation of Telangana state. ♦



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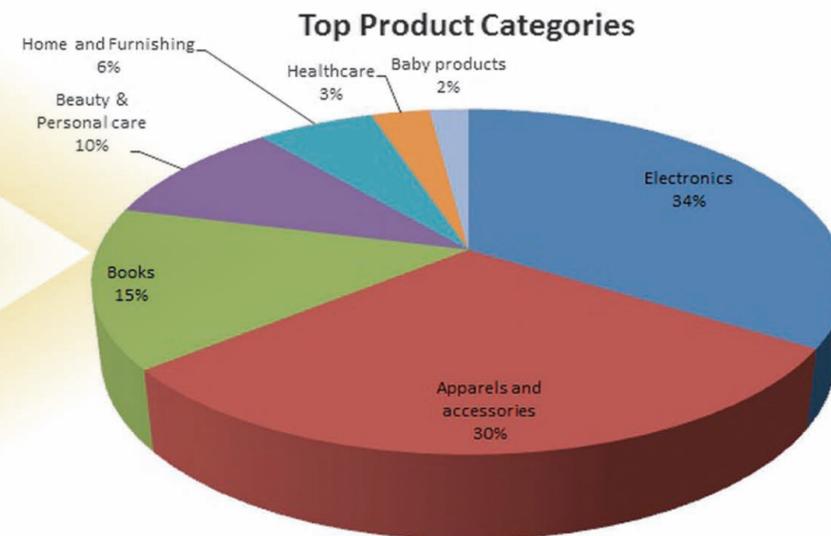
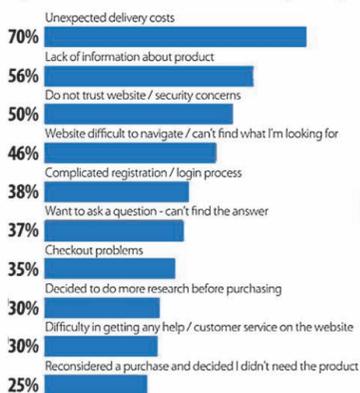


Figure. 5. Reasons for abandonment during online purchase



By Jaywant Naidu

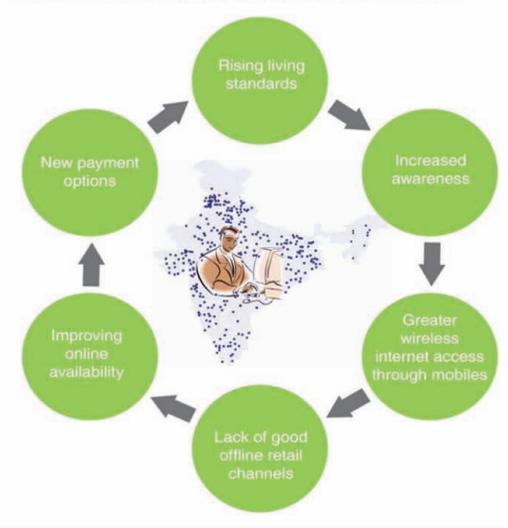
India's E-commerce market was worth about \$2.5 billion in 2009, it went up to \$6.3 billion in 2011 and to \$14 billion in 2012. About 75% of this is travel related (airline tickets, railway tickets, hotel bookings, movie tickets, restaurant discount vouchers, utility payments, insurance policies, premium payments and online mobile recharge.). India has close to 10 million online shoppers. Online travel (76 percent) and financial services (10 percent) form the biggest component of online shopping followed by e-tailing (8 percent). Product categories such as computers, cameras, mobiles, electronic durables, and books are picking up. India's Retail market is estimated at \$470 billion in 2011 and is expected to grow to \$675 Billion by 2016 and \$850 Billion by 2020. According to Forrester, the E-commerce market in India is set to grow the fastest within the Asia-Pacific Region at a CAGR of over 57% between 2012-16. The E-commerce in India is still at a nascent stage – surrounded by potentials and projections – but the real performance of the current market leader, Flipkart, does have a success story to tell. For example, Educomp in India. Though it's tottering and dealing with many financial issues, Educomp's early success paved way for investors to look at the education industry with a certain degree of seriousness. Flipkart today is valued at Rs1,000 crore, and speculation is rife that the e-firm, in fact, is worth at Rs5,000 crore. It recently raised \$20 million. Other Indian players Myntra, Jabong, India Plaza and Junglee are also a part of this vast expanding segment. Rural India is still away from the phenomenon of online trading. Penetration of World Wide Web and number of users is on a continuous rise, which in turn is aiding online purchases among the rural populace.

Internet usage, 3G penetration, and increasing Smartphone users with availability of Internet on mobile phones will bring growth of more than twenty percent mobile shoppers in the next four years. These factors accompanied by busy lifestyles, traffic congestion, lack of offline shopping time, great deals and discounts offered online, and use of innovative E-commerce models such as group buying and second-hand sales have led to more and more consumers switch to online shopping. With the rising middle class incomes, global exposure and changing demographics (close to 50 percent of the population is less than 25 years of age), this trend also holds true for the Tier II & III cities.

SECURITY AND OTHER ISSUES:

Amazon is the global leader in E-commerce, but is now plagued by issues of credit cards being hacked. Hackers track closely non-functional accounts and no sooner a purchase is made, they make another purchase within 24 hours using the same credit card number. Sometimes the case pertains to a few hundred dollars, but also thousands of dollars being siphoned off. However, the E-commerce industry today faces certain challenges. Firstly, there is a very low penetration of credit/debit cards in India, which restricts the online purchasing power. Even though, strategies such as cash

What's driving e-commerce adoption in small towns?



Indians haven't taken to online shopping as widely as hoped. People distrust using credit cards online, so retailers began offering a cash-on-delivery option. But, this is an expensive proposition for the online retailer, who basically has to finance the sale till the order is delivered. Also, cash-on-delivery makes it easy for customers to reject products at the point of delivery. These manual interventions take away some of the efficiency gains of online selling. Supply side also has its own issues. Offline shopping options in the form of big malls with Imax, Inox movie halls are also an attraction in the form of entertainment provided in the complex along with a shopping experience. The Internet is projected to reach small towns and the low rungs of the economic ladder more quickly than retail chains will. With just 10% of India's population accessing the Internet, there's plenty of growth ahead.

ONLINE APPAREL SHOPPING IN INDIA:

Globalization and increasing

consumerism has resulted in rapid growth of E-commerce in India and apparel has become the fastest growing segment in the country's online retail section. The leading online retailers of the country expect the garment sales to double in 2013 due to the rise in demand for clothing in online market. According to a recent survey conducted by HomeShop18.com on the shopping trends in India, clothing has the highest demand in online shopping. The survey report states that a garment is sold every 40 seconds in the country. With increasing faith in virtual commerce, customers have gradually developed a comfort level in buying clothes online. The emotional aspiration to buy fashionable and branded products mixed with the functional reason of limited availability of these brands leads to a sparked demand for them. Eased payment options like Cash on Delivery (COD) and Equated Monthly installments (EMI) are also contributing to the growth of the apparel E-commerce in India. As more and more shoppers are getting comfortable with online shopping, apparel is set to become the fastest

growing category (overtaking electronics) in the online shopping space in 2013. Garment and lifestyle category has 41 percent share of transactions on E-Bay India. As per a recent report by the company, 'Kurtis' ranked fifth amongst top traded products in lifestyle category, while sarees ranked fourth amongst top sold products on E-Bay.

THE MINOR GLITCHES:

The key to success in this segment is delivering high quality user experience which includes differentiated and detailed product catalog, order fulfillment, website performance, different modes of transaction (credit cards, payment gateways, cash on delivery etc.), and simple and sensible check-out. Furthermore, with the increase in competition in this segment, the E-commerce players need to invest in research and development of differentiated product catalogs, innovative service and customer engagement concepts, and cost effective supply chain and logistics models. So be ready to click the button and buy!

mail@deccanpost.net

TOP 5 TRADED

- Laptop Accessories
- Men's Wallets
- Tablets
- Men's Wrist Watches
- Modems

Legend: Lifestyle (41%), Electronics (48%), Media (9%), Collectibles (2%)

TOP 5 EXPORTED

- Natural Diamonds
- Fashion Necklaces
- Homeopathic Herbal Remedies
- Sarees
- Gardening Supplies

Legend: Lifestyle (80%), Electronics (9%), Media (6%), Collectibles (5%)

TOP 5 IMPORTED

- Smartphones
- Natural Diamonds
- Wrist Watches
- Fashion Necklaces
- Mobile Screen Protectors

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Bhoomi Pooja at Kanyakumari

The ceremonious "Bhoomi Puja" has been performed with religious fervour in the city of Kanyakumari on Tuesday for the construction of the new temple of Lord Venkateswara.

This ceremony has been performed in strict conformance to Vaastu Shastra as per Vaikhanasa Agama by a team of priests on Tuesday between 6am to 8am. The priests rendered Maha Sankalpam in the yaga Sala and performed celestial Homam with Ganapathi Aradhana seeking the blessings of Goddess Earth (Bhoomi Devi) before starting up the construct works of the massive Lord Venkateswara temple which is coming up in the sprawling 4.5 acres of land at a cost of Rs.22.5 crores.

Apart from the Lord Venkateswara temple, there will also be a temple for Goddess Padmavathi Devi and a temple tank (Swamy Pushkarini) on the lines of Tirumala temple. With an aim to protect Hindu Sanatana Dharma, a

Goshala (cow shed), Veda Patasala (spiritual vedic schools), Potu (temple Kitchen) and Anna Prasada Bhavanam (free mass feeding centre) will also be taking shape in this huge piece of land.

After the puja, the TTD Chairman Sri K Bapiraju and TTD EO Sri LV Subramanyam unveiled the foundation stone for the series of works that are taking place in this area and named the place as "Tirupati Puram".



ASTRO FOCUS

June 09-15, 2013

Aries: Look to enhance your personal influence, power, and security. This is more about your attitude than it is about what you say. Be careful that you are not assuming or ambiguous. Extra clarity in communication and arrangements pays off. It is OK to be a little OCD this weekend. You feel the struggle to have more freedom in your career this week. Being called into family and domestic issues may take priority. That is good, because there are matters to be settled and you have a lot to say about outcomes.

Taurus: This week is social. You attract attention, and make contact with interesting people. You want and need to be productive. But this can be separated from creating a cash flow. Friends and allies can help make dreams real. You must talk about your dreams and hopes and make yourself available. People will surprise you with their sincerity. You experience a dissolving of barriers that have been holding you back in relationships. If particular beliefs have not served you well, you can change them.

Gemini: Opportunities line up for you to develop your income, work, and career. Connect to where and with whom your ideas and efforts are considered more valuable. Give your finances and credit situation a clear analysis. Not even if things are good, rather especially if things are good, should you develop a plan of debt reduction. Get your mind and imagination around the idea of being happier and freer.

Cancer: Interesting people with interesting ideas are drawn to you. Notice how your dreams and conjecture about the spirit world is opening up. Is it your superior deductive reasoning skills or are you becoming clairvoyant? You can see how your future is coming together along lines that you appreciate. Be open to changes in your career. Take advantage of an opportunity to circumvent the usual, tedious, and ineffective channels of communication.

Leo: This is a week to pull people together. Turn on and express your managerial abilities by empowering others. Give away the power but retain the responsibility. You may be called away or distracted, so get others to help you. The New Moon on Saturday indicates a strong initiative to make your statement. This is no time to be shy, circumspect, or jaded. You cannot find your tribe and allies if you do not speak from the heart. The true leader listens and serves.

Virgo: Spiritual inspiration washes through your close relationships. Others are bringing inspiration to you and you are inspiring others. You are connecting to friends and associates on a sincere and caring level. Can you transform your manner of relating by bringing into it the caring and recognition of spirit that you have learned to use sometimes?

Libra: You have a lot of potential. Create new dreams and goals. Social networking, publishing, travel, learning new techniques are all ways that you may expand your influence and move beyond boundaries. Do this by seeing your efforts as a continuous process, where there is no end point where your efforts are measured or graded.

Scorpio: New people and ideas are coming to you. Your inspired daydreams bring you new goals and ambitions. Creative inspiration becomes creative projects. You are very determined to manifest your dreams; you latch on to some that you will not let go until they are realized. Keep work relationships structured and professional mid-week. Guard against shallow promises.

Sagittarius: Your personal and private emotional nature is inspired into an articulation of your desires. It certainly helps to gain a better idea of what you want. The challenge comes with allowing the intimacy and vulnerability that is required to create the fulfilling bonds that you seek. Remember, as a Sagittarian, you demonstrate that honesty is the best policy. Creative ideas are lining up within you; waiting for expression. Refinements and investments can happen over time.

Aquarius: A creative project or a flirtation will get your blood flowing and bring you some enthusiasm. Shifts in your career provide an opportunity to change your situation and income for the better. Letting go of expectations for the behaviour of others can bring a shift in your belief systems. It is personally liberating to let others to their own devices.

Pisces: This represents your home, family, base of operations, and emotional roots. The initiative of the New Moon has you remaking your base of power and security. Wield your creative ideas like a magic wand. Your creative vision is praised by others, but you have to express it. You are not only remaking your home and family life, you are also restructuring your community network.

SUDOKU 273

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

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-272

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

Answer 272 : Kishore, Mehdipatnam.

Laugh out loud

1) If it takes twenty minutes to hard-boil one goose egg, how long will it take to hard-boil four goose eggs?
20 minutes, 4 eggs can be boiled at the same time.

2) Is there a 4th of July in England? Yes or No?
....Yes. It comes right after the 3rd.

3) Some months have 31 days. How many have 28?
.....Twelve (12). All of them have at least 28 days.

4) Can a man in California marry his widow's sister?

....No. He must be dead if it is his widow.

5) Take the number 30, divide it by 1/2, and then add 10. What do you get?
..... Seventy (70). Thirty (30) divided by 1/2 is 60.

6) A doctor gives you three pills and tells you to take one every half an hour. How long will the pills last?
.....One hour. If you take the first pill at 1:00, the second at 1:30, and the third at 2:00, the pills have run out and only one hour has passed.

7) A farmer has 17 sheep. All but 9

of them die. How many sheep are left?

..... Nine (9). Like I said, all BUT nine die.

8) A butcher in the market is 5' 10 tall. What does he weigh?
..... Meat ... that is self-explanatory.

Santa: Should I Buy Tickets For My Children.?

Conductor: Yes! Only If They Are Above 8.

Santa: Thank God ,I Have Only 6 Children...!!



Dance – a source of inspiration

Sharmila Biswas, well known Odissi Dancer spoke to Deccan Post about her experience in Odissi dance form.

Tell us about the ancient dance form in Odisha?

I have studied the art of the Temple Mahari dancers, and got trained in folk and ancient tribal dance forms of Odisha. I have also taken training in the musical traditions of Odisha. I have done research in the percussion tradition of Khol for application in my productions.

How did you take to dance?

Dance has been my passion. In my young days, I learnt the basics of all classical dances. I was initiated in dance by Kalavati Devi and Guru Bipin Singh at Children's Little Theatre, Calcutta. Belonging to West Bengal, I got very close with the form, language and expressions of Odissi dance. I learnt from legendary guru Kelucharan Mohapatra and took further training with Kalanidhi Narayan in the Art of 'Abhinaya'. I also attended the American Dance Festival Workshop of USA.

How do you take up to bringing in creativity in your work?

There is a very important process to understand each form of Art. Traditional art in the different fields which are finally connected to dance are a source of inspiration. Dance should not become a rigid or technical subject. It should reach out to everyone.

How easy was it to integrate the works of 'Tagore' in the Odissi dance ballets?

The 'Chand' of dance bring in universal application. The Art of Odisha and West Bengal also are very old and somewhere integrated in the approach to the Bhakti movement.

What are the important elements of Odissi dance?

The four segments of 'Nritya, Swara, Tala and Sahitya' are most important elements of Odissi classical dance form.

Tell us about your Institution?

I have set up an institution 'Odissi Vision and Movement Centre'. We do many original compositions in a modern approach in terms of technique, stage design, choreography and lighting.

How far and wide have you performed?

I have performed widely in India, featuring in events including Yuva Utsav and the Festival of Choreographic Works organized by Sangeet Natak Akademi, the Konak Festival in Orissa, the ITC Golden Greats Festival, the Khajuraho dance Festival, and festivals organized by reputed Sabhas of Chennai. I have also performed in the Festivals of India in USSR and Germany. ♦

- JAYWANT NAIDU

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Shilpa is upset!

Co-owners of Rajasthan Royals Shilpa Shetty and her husband Raj Kundra are now reportedly upset at the media and how they have 'misconstrued everything' after Raj Kundra was questioned by Delhi Police in relation with the IPI spot-fixing fiasco.



Raj Kundra, who has businesses reaching Dubai, Ukraine and Botswana was questioned on Wednesday and caused a great buzz in the media.

On Thursday morning, Raj Kundra was greeted with the headlines – "Raj Kundra faces the heat", to which he playfully responded, "Yes, it's very hot in Mumbai."

"Media has misconstrued everything using unreliable sources. Try speaking to the main guys at crime branch. Why does media hype things," he added.



Samantha is back

Tollywood's most wanted heroine Samantha is back from a small holiday and she's all charged up to shoot for her upcoming films. A week ago, she had wrapped up a major schedule of Pawan Kalyan's Atharintiki Daredhi and soon, she went on a holiday and it turned out to be a much needed break for the actress.

"Best holiday ever...all charged up...for my next sched...overdose of fun, laughter, friendship...Loveeeeeee"- Samantha posted this message on Twitter.

The next schedule of 'Athaarintiki Dhaaredhi' has been planned to shot in Europe, where a couple of songs along with few key scenes will be canned. Buzz is that the first look of this Pawan Kalyan and Samantha starrer will be unveiled after the foreign schedule is completed. Creative director Trivikram Srinivas has been helming the project on Sri Venkateswara Cine Chitra Pvt Ltd banner.

Samantha has also signed NTR starrer Ramayya Vasthavayya that is taking shape in the direction of Harish Shankar and does few schedules too. It seems that after completing the foreign schedule of Pawan Kalyan movie, she will join the sets of NTR's 'Ramayya Vasthavayya'. Dil Raju is the producer and Thaman is the music director.

-DP Desk



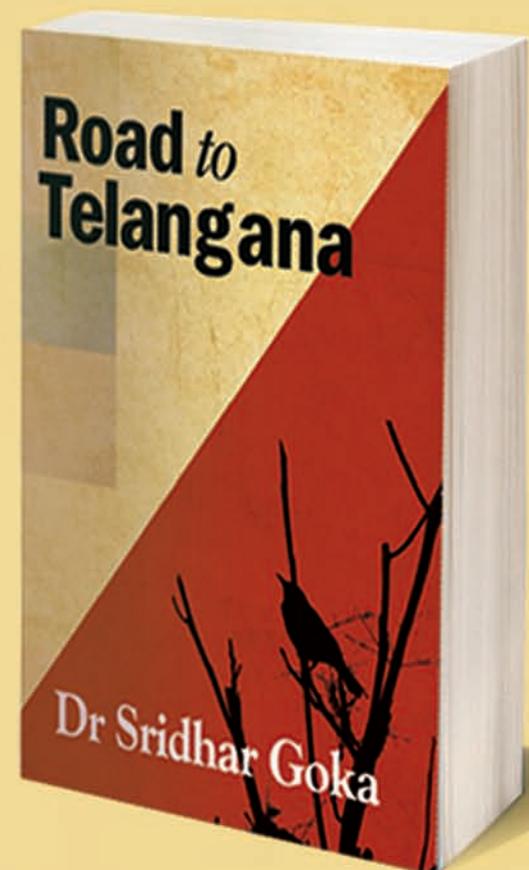
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Stock Market remains weak

By V Sundar Raja

The stock market continued the cautious mode and is seen in a declining trend, while many stocks are even seen hitting yearly lows. The primary reasons for the weakening trend is due to the profit booking

in the Global markets, and the low GDP (economic growth rate) of the Indian economy, and the selling pressure in the Indian equities.

The strong performing sectors in the last

few months, the Pharma and FMCG (Fast Moving Consumer Goods) stocks were seen tired at higher levels and have halted the bullish trend, to get into a correction trend.

The worst performing groups are the Real Estate, Public Sector Banking stocks and the Automobiles. There are fresh fears now that the Reserve Bank of India, in its next meet in the current month, may not reduce the widely anticipated banking interest lending rates. This is because of a report that the RBI has concerns that the current inflation and the Current Account Deficit (CAD) are still high. Generally, only low rate of interests would be beneficial to these interest rate sensitive sectors.

The software stocks were seen moving against the market trend, with buying interested generating in select stocks, as the Dollar is seen in a strong appreciation against the Rupee. The quarterly financial results of the Banking leader State Bank of India, has been below expectations resulting in a bearish trend in the public sector banking stocks.

The Indian Rupee is seen in a declining trend, in the last few weeks from 53 to current 57 record low levels. Dollar remains strong even at current levels, and there are fears that it could even hit the 60 mark. A weak Rupee would make imports costlier, especially the

Crude Oil, which would have a negative impact.

The precious metal Gold is seen recovering and is now at five week high. The sentiment remained firm as there is a hike in the import duty from 6% to 8%, which is meant to reduce the imports of the gold. A very high import of gold in the last few months has severely impacted the current account deficit. The crude oil after a minor correction at 5,400, it has again advanced further and is now likely to touch the major highs, for the traders to be cautious.

Market has failed to hold at support levels of 20,000 levels, and fresh buying by the investors have to be avoided at the current levels, until a positive and a stabilizing trend is visible. The stock market is likely to continue the downtrend, and could halt the immediate bullish chances for the investors to be cautious. Sensex has the next major support at 19,000, where it must consolidate strongly for a positive trend. In-case of a further failure to rebound at 19,000, then it could continue the further downtrend, to the next major long-term support of 18,200 levels. ♦

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



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Addicted to Alcohol or Drugs?

Test for self-assessment of Substance Use Disorder

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

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

Treatment

Medical Diagnosis and Detoxification,
Psychiatrist & Psychological Assessments,
AA / NA 12 Step Programme,
Management of Emotions and Feelings,
Individual, Group, Grief Counselling

Behaviour Therapy,
Relapse Prevention Program,
Adult Substance Education Program,
Family Counselling,
Skill Enhancement



Facilities Available :

- 24hrs Medical Nursing Care
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