

THE BEACON

PRACTICE NEWS BULLETIN OF THE PG STUDENTS OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

Tuesday, 13 September 2022 / St. Joseph's University / Vol: 15 Issue: 09 / www.sjcdeptcomm.wordpress.com

'Creating hope through action'

AS Mandira

Suicidal tendencies have become very prevalent these days in our society, says Vandita Vempati, a trainee psychologist and behaviour therapist from Hyderabad.

World Suicide Prevention Day is celebrated on September 10 every year to reflect a worldwide commitment to focusing on suicide prevention. The International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) vouched for the observation of this day and was endorsed by the World Health Organization (WHO). The theme for this year is Creating Hope Through Action. According to the WHO, over 70,000 individuals commit suicide each year.

The pandemic, especially during the lockdown period, caused a rise in depression cases as people were not able to deal with the problems in their professional and personal lives, says the Psychiatrist.

While addressing the issues related to mental health and the increased number of suicides, she further added, "Mental health has always been important, but unfortunately it is sad to see that we had to witness an increase in such cases to realise the importance of it. Society needs to start realising that it is okay to ask for help and should reduce the stigma and the taboo associated with these issues. Only when you are mentally fit and happy, you can be physically fit and happy. I would request that everyone start spreading awareness about positive mental health and start recognising the importance of it."

PUCL does a reality check post hijab ban

Afreen Hussain

The People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL) published an interim report last week on the impact of the hijab ban on Muslim women and their right to study in educational institutions. The study of the judgment, Resham v. State of Karnataka delivered by the Karnataka High Court was undertaken by the PUCL to understand the implications that Muslim women had to face apart from the legal aspects.

Poorna Ravishankar, lawyer and member of the PUCL, while speaking to The Beacon said, "The study was necessary to highlight the various psychological effects that these Muslim women had to undergo due to the hijab ban and many other concerns, such as the struggles and worries regarding their educational future, issues of access to educational certificates, harassment, and safety



PUCL's interim report on the impact of hijab ban on Karnataka's educational institutions

Human Rights Watch

within the college campuses. The legal aspects of this particular move by the high court were already put across, but the mental effect that they have to go through was not spoken about."

She further said that the team that was appointed to speak to numerous Muslim

women in various parts of the state of Karnataka, including Hasan, Mangalore, Ullal, Hoode, Udupi, and Raichur town, who were affected by this decision, gave testimonies of being isolated from society just because they used a piece of cloth to cover their heads. She questioned, "How

is this fair to the Muslim community? When we spoke to these girls, they told us that they feel betrayed and that they feel distant from their friends and classmates; there is a sense of othering. The hijab ban decision creates a sense of polarization and ghettoization in society."

The report highlights the denial of the rights of Muslim women including their right to education, their right to expression, and other associated rights, which have been derailed by the ban on the hijab. She added, "These young Muslim girls had to choose between education and wearing hijab; many of them switched to minority institutions, but the question here that arises is, why do they have to change their educational institution to practice wearing hijab; why is this compulsion necessary?"

Towards the end of the report, the PUCL recommended the state government to rescind the notification that banned Muslim students from wearing hijab in schools and colleges. It further urged the judiciary to carry out a comprehensive inquiry into the lost years and expenses incurred as a result of the hijab ban.

Amidst hurdles, host B'luru proves its might

Sudha Ankita Ekka & Fiza Ziyad

BENGALURU: The FIBA U18 Asian Women's Basketball Championship concluded on Sunday at Sree Kanteerava Indoor Stadium, Bengaluru, amidst several hurdles. Even though the adverse weather conditions in the city posed a challenge, the championship was organised smoothly, according to officials. As the games were conducted at two different venues, commuting through the traffic was also a problem.

The championship started on Sept 5 and the final match between Australia and China



Champion of FIBA U18 Asian Championship

Fiza Ziyad

happened on Sunday with the former emerging as the champions of Division A with the score line reading 88-55.

"We obviously got disheartened when climatic conditions worsened on the first day but they adjusted the schedule to accommodate

games on the rest day and I can say in the end, everything went well," said Rakesh, the chief organiser of the event. Talking about the traffic in Bengaluru, he added "We have to reach Koramangala (where Division B games were conducted) and some-

times it takes at least one and half hours to reach there (from Kanteerava Stadium). So that is the biggest challenge I'll say."

Due to incessant rainfall in the initial days of the championship, all matches had to be shifted to Koramangala Indoor Stadium. However, the rest day on Sept 8 was utilized to complete the matches at Kanteerava Stadium, said Ananya Pattai, one of the organisers of the event. "I think the first day was tough for every one of us. But the maintenance people did an amazing job of pumping out the water from Kanteerava," she added.

Are windfall taxes a solution?

Saishyam Srikanth

In 2020 and 2021, 1000 of the world's largest corporations earned \$1.15 trillion profit, a 68.5% increase over the pre-pandemic period, revealed the latest Oxfam report released last week.

The report came in the backdrop of discussions by the European Commission to impose windfall taxes (taxes imposed on excess profits) on companies profiting from the pandemic and the conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

The growing profits of some of the biggest companies in the world come at a time when Europeans have been hit by rising energy bills and inflation due to the war and pandemic. The report, while stating that windfall taxes were a key tool to fight inequality, said, "It is a good way to bridge the widening gap between the rich and the poor, deliver a just recovery, and fight monopolies and rising inflation."

Oxfam warned that 22.3 million people could be pushed into extreme poverty by the end of 2022. It stated that revenue generated through possible windfall taxes must be used to support welfare systems and public services.

Lankans roar to the Asian title

Narayan B

Chamika Karunaratne hammered the final nail in the coffin for Pakistan's hope of lifting the Asia Cup 2022 as Sri Lanka triumphed over the favourites.

Sri Lanka had a tough year with their political and economic turmoils in their country, but being crowned the champions of Asia would surely be something to be happy about. This is the 6th time Sri Lanka has lifted the Asia Cup second to India who are 7 time champions. On the other hand, Pakistan

would have much to think about as they were clearly the favourites after India was kicked out of the tournament. Mohammad Rizwan's lone fight throughout the series continued in this match as well, as he did not get support from the rest of the team. They committed mistakes in and out of the field, be it poor fielding or team management.

Bhanuka Rajapaksa, with his ever so flamboyant with the bat, Wanindu Hasaranga's all-round performance, brilliant team fielding and

the high spirit of the young Lankan blood were the backbone of winning the finals. Pakistan did not have anything to look for in this game other than looking back at their lack of intent to win on the big stage or taking a rather young team lightly.

With the T20 World Cup around the corner, there are going to be a lot of changes in how the game is to be played which has been boosted by the way Sri Lanka has won the Asia Cup under the captaincy of Dasun Shanaka.

KL Police increase patrolling

Subadra Sarath

"We had complained about the smoke coming from the apartment next to us. We initially believed it was caused by cigarette smoking, but then realised that it was actually some other illegal smoke," said a resident of Oxoniya apartments in Kochi, where a youth was murdered recently.

On August 30, a body of a 23-year-old Malappuram native was found wrapped in a bedsheet in the apartment. The Kerala Police now suspect an illicit sale of drugs and related financial transactions



Increased vigilance

News18

as the cause behind the murder. And since then the night patrols have increased.

"Police have put in a lot of effort to ensure that patrolling is increased. While this patrolling was started to ensure that no other murders happen, I think this will also help to curb the other law and order problems that exist here," said a lawyer from Kochi.